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Remember their names

Families fighting to have legacies of 93 dead servicemembers preserved on Vietnam Wall

By CAITLIN M. KENNEY
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON

Four families connected by a single tragedy 57 years ago met for the first time in Washington to petition the government to fix a wrong: To finally add to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall the names of 93 soldiers who died on a plane headed to Saigon, Vietnam.

On March 16, 1962, Flying Tiger Line Flight 739 disappeared between Guam and the Philippines on its way to the South Vietnamese capital. Witnesses on an oil tanker claimed they saw the plane explode, but no trace of it was ever found, according to the Civil Aeronautics Board accident report.

Aboard the flight were 93 American soldiers, three South

‘The generation that we’re at now with my dad, they’re going to stop saying the name. We can’t stop saying their name, so they don’t die twice.’

Jennifer Kirk
Spouse of Donald Sargent's niece

SEE LEGACIES ON PAGE 6

Visitors to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall are reflected in the wall's stone this spring in Washington.

CAITLIN M. KENNEY/Stars and Stripes

North Korea shows off another missile as Trump predicts more nuclear talks

By KIM GAMEL
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korea showed off more missiles on Sunday, hours after President Donald Trump said he's not worried about the recent spate of launches and raised hope for new nuclear talks with the communist state.

The North's state-run news

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■ 11 servicemen identified among Korean War remains from North Korea

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agency reported that leader Kim Jong Un supervised the missile launches on Saturday, the country's fifth weapons test in less than three weeks.

"The Supreme Leader expressed great satisfaction, being very pleased that another new weapon intended by the Party came into being," KCNA reported.

It also published photos show-

ing the missiles and Kim watching as a ball of fire rises in the sky.

South Korea's military said it appeared that two short-range ballistic missiles fired by the North flew nearly 250 miles and reached an altitude of nearly 30 miles before splashing into the sea off the eastern coast.

The North has said other recent launches were to protest

U.S.-South Korean military exercises that began last week, but experts say the North also likely is trying to boost its leverage as Washington tries to restart talks aimed at persuading it to abandon its nuclear weapons.

Trump said Saturday that Kim wrote in a "very beautiful letter" that he wants "to meet and start

SEE NUCLEAR ON PAGE 4

MILITARY

USAF: No influx of beard requests on religious grounds

By JAMES BOLINGER
Stars and Stripes

For nearly a year, the Air Force weighed a staff sergeant's request to grow a beard as part of his religious beliefs before granting him a waiver, a decision that balanced personal liberty against military readiness, a Pentagon spokesman said.

Staff Sgt. Garrett Sopchak, 28, an aerospace ground equipment craftsman from the 388th Maintenance Squadron at Hill Air Force Base, Utah, embraces Norse Heathenism, a belief system whose pantheon includes the gods Odin and Thor. He received his waiver July 8.

"The beard in my faith serves as a symbol that represents one's integrity," Sopchak told Stars and Stripes in a July 25 email.

The Air Force places a high value on the rights of its members to observe the tenets of their respective religions or to observe no religion at all, said Lynn Kirby, an Air Force spokeswoman at the Pentagon, in an Aug. 5 email.

Sopchak is the second Norse Heathen known to have obtained an Air Force waiver to grow a beard. Staff Sgt. William Bailey received a waiver to grow a beard March 1, according to an Air Force memo posted in July to

the amn/nco/snco Facebook page. The Air Force, citing privacy concerns, declined to identify how many airmen have obtained waivers based on religious exemptions but said the publicity surrounding approvals in recent years has

'The beard in my faith serves as a symbol that represents one's integrity.'

Staff Sgt. Garrett Sopchak
388th Maintenance Squadron

not caused an increase in waiver requests. Based on published reports, the Air Force had granted 11 waivers as of November, including one to a Muslim airman to wear a beard and in June to a Sikh airman to wear a turban.

Kirby said Sopchak's waiver request was vetted by several Air Force agencies and was eventually approved by Lt. Gen. Brian Kelly, the Air Force deputy chief of staff for manpower, personnel and services.

Sopchak, raised in the Baptist faith, said he discovered Norse Heathenism two years ago. The stories from the Bible never re-



Garrett Sopchak

Staff Sgt. Garrett Sopchak, 28, of the 388th Maintenance Squadron at Hill Air Force Base, Utah, embraces Norse Heathenism, a belief system whose pantheon includes the gods Odin and Thor. He received a beard waiver on July 8.

ally clicked with him, he said, and he began to explore other spiritual paths.

"One day, I woke up with an urge to read the [Eddas], and it just resonated," he said. "I decided this was the spiritual path for me."

Eddaic literature is a body of ancient Icelandic literature and the most detailed source for modern knowledge of Germanic mythology, according to the Encyclopedia Britannica.

Kirby said servicemembers may request to wear beards, turbans and other hallmarks of their

religions if doing so does not negatively affect their ability to accomplish the military mission.

When the Air Force receives a waiver request, commanders, Chaplain Corps personnel, medical providers, judge advocates and other experts determine if the request will adversely affect military readiness, unit cohesion, standards and discipline, Kirby said.

Air Force chaplains assess whether the request is within the doctrinal or traditional observances of an airman's faith, and

commanders assess mission impact, she said.

The Air Force will take "corrective action" if it discovers the airman made a false or erroneous request, Kirby said.

Since 2014, the Pentagon has allowed servicemembers to appeal under the guidance of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act for the right to wear items mandated by their religions that would be prohibited under grooming and appearance regulations.

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PACIFIC

One year later, airman recalls Thai cave rescue

BY MATTHEW M. BURKE
Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — When a call came last summer for volunteers to don scuba gear, swim into Thailand's flooded Tham Luang cave and help rescue a youth soccer team trapped inside, Tech. Sgt. Kenny O'Brien stepped forward.

The dramatic rescue captivated audiences around the globe. All 12 boys and their coach were freed after being sedated and pulled 2½ miles through the floodwaters using ropes and pulleys.

O'Brien, 30, of Bunker Hill, Ind., a section chief with the 353rd Special Operations Group, 320th Special Tactics Squadron, at Okinawa's Kadena Air Base, has been chosen as one of the 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year for 2019. The Air Force-wide selection was announced July 23.

In addition to participating in the Thai cave rescue, O'Brien helped save a Korean national from a tractor crash in South Korea in March 2018. Just a few months later, he was one of only two airmen on President Donald Trump's security team during his first summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un in Singapore. He also has three combat deployments to Afghanistan under his belt.

If someone needs someone to go do something dangerous, I volunteer to go do that," O'Brien recently told Stars and Stripes at Kadena Air Base. "If someone needs to lead something, I volunteer to do that. ... I happened to be in the right place at the right time for multiple big events."

Few events in 2018 were as big or garnered as much international attention as the Thai cave rescue, an ordeal that lasted 18 days in June and July. O'Brien found himself in a front-row seat, spending nine days in the frigid waters of the cave.

The Wild Boar youth soccer team was reported missing from the mountains overlooking their village in Thailand's rural Mae Sai district on June 23, 2018. The boys' bicycles and other belongings were found at the cave entrance.

They were reportedly caught off guard by a flash flood and found themselves stuck on a small rocky shelf, separated from freedom by rising floodwaters.

The Thai government contacted the U.S. Embassy for assistance June 26, said 353rd SOG spokeswoman 1st Lt. Renee Douglas. One day later, a crisis action team made up of 353rd SOG and 18th Wing personnel departed for Chiang Rai and arrived June 28.

Douglas did not respond to multiple emailed requests seeking more information about the mission.

"We were just getting ready to go do live training of all things, ac-

tually, and then they told us to stop what we're doing, and we were on the ground in Thailand, I think, 19 hours after that," O'Brien said. "We got there, and we first had to figure out what was going on and who was in charge — and that took a very long time — and then how we could help."

Dramatic rescue

Pararescue is one of the 353rd SOG's specialties, O'Brien said. Called "PJs," pararescuemen are the Defense Department's primary personnel recovery force.

They made a name for themselves during the war in Afghanistan, often lowering themselves from helicopters into the middle of firefights to evacuate severely wounded personnel from remote mountainsides.

It is also the Air Force's most highly decorated enlisted force, according to a fact sheet by the service. Awards include at least one Medal of Honor, at least a dozen Air Force Crosses and more than 100 Silver Stars.

"We're tasked with getting someone out of any bad situation you can think of, whether it's in the ocean or the middle of a fire-fight on the side of a mountain," O'Brien said. "We are trained and qualified to get to them and treat any medical needs they have."

The special tactics squadron also specializes in setting up airfields and creating mission support sites, O'Brien said. It can be attached to other special operations forces units, including Green Berets or naval special operations, or SEALs, for support. Members generally must be adept at many skills, but each person often picks one area, such as medicine, as a specialty.

In Thailand, O'Brien, who specializes in jumping, was the primary medic for the Air Force team during the initial phases of the cave rescue.

When they arrived at the cave, O'Brien and his fellow airmen were attached to a Thai special forces team. They hiked deep into the thick jungle brush, trying to find alternative entrances to the cave. The possible entrances they discovered turned out to be dead ends, O'Brien said.

The next idea to get to the trapped boys was to drill into the mountain, O'Brien said. So, his team cleared a helicopter landing zone "down to the dirt" to airlift in drills powerful enough to penetrate the earth.

"As that was happening, basically we started to realize that diving was probably going to be the only way to get in there," O'Brien said.

The airmen were separated into two teams, one on each side of the mountain, O'Brien said. Two volunteers from each team were asked to be the first U.S. dive team inside. O'Brien volunteered.

The plan was ambitious. They would attempt to get more than 300 air tanks as far into the cave as possible, O'Brien recalled. Pumps were used to keep the floodwaters down and to create air pockets.

"We had no idea really what it looked like in there," he said. "We went in and assessed how big the chambers actually were versus what we were told and how many people we would need and then spent a few days actually getting all the tanks in there."

The tanks were moved all the way to an open area called Chamber 3, the largest chamber, O'Brien said. The forward air supply allowed divers to move more and more deeply into the cave.

British divers John Volanthen and Rick Stanton had spent days traversing the "narrow, murky passageways," laying out guide ropes and searching for the boys, the BBC reported. On July 2, they found the 12 teammates and their coach.

"Then the more difficult question was how we were going to get the boys out of the cave because that's just never been done before," O'Brien said.

O'Brien and his fellow airmen took sections of polyvinyl chloride, or PVC, piping and filled them with food and water. They used rocks and dirt to make them neutrally buoyant and carried them in through the floodwaters to Chamber 3, where other divers were waiting to carry them the rest of the way.

"As we were doing that, a Thai SEAL had a shallow water blackout ... between Chamber 2 and 3," O'Brien recalled. "He got caught on a rope and couldn't get himself loose."

The Thai SEAL was pulled out of the water by his fellow divers. O'Brien and his team helped resuscitate him.

"Honestly, for me it wasn't all that stressful," O'Brien said. "I wasn't in a leadership position. I wasn't making any huge decisions. Up until the three days we were actually rescuing people — that was very stressful."

'Expecting a dead child'

The narrow underwater passageways were full of cables, tubes, ropes, debris and divers going back and forth, O'Brien said.

"It was very dangerous and there was so much stuff in the



JESSICA TART/U.S. Air Force

Air Force Tech. Sgt. Kenny O'Brien prepares for dive operations outside Tham Luang cave in Chiang Rai, Thailand, on July 2, 2018. O'Brien, based at Okinawa's Kadena Air Base, was chosen as one of 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year for 2019.

water," he said.

The cave claimed former Thai navy SEAL diver Saman Gunan, 38, on July 6. He lost consciousness after running out of air while bringing tanks to the boys.

"I knew there was a chance people were going to die," O'Brien said. "It is very sad, but we had to continue on."

After the boys had been supplied, rescue planners had to decide what to do next. They calculated that moving the amount of food and water needed to keep the Wild Boars alive until the floodwaters receded was not feasible. Storms were imminent and the currents in the chambers would halt the movement of more supplies.

They needed to get the boys out immediately.

O'Brien was among the small group of U.S. airmen who were the farthest inside the cave, he said. They were in Chamber 3 with another team in Chamber 2. O'Brien believes there were nine chambers to get to the boys.

The boys would be passed underwater to O'Brien and his team, who would assess them and decide whether they needed aid or were clear to be passed to Chamber 2, he recalled. They had a rope system to move the boys down a sort of mudslide in Chamber 3.

But the children were too small, so O'Brien and his team had to put their weight on each litter and slide down with the boys to the next team of airmen, who would bring them to Chamber 2.

In Chamber 2, the airmen had built a headline rope system to get the boys over a chasm, O'Brien said. Then the Thais would take the boys and rush them out of the cave for medical attention. There was no margin for error.

"Past Chamber 3, we had no communication with anyone," O'Brien recalled.

"Everything was on timelines and you didn't know the status, so

basically, I had to sit there in the water 13 times expecting a dead child to pop up. That's the only way I could think of it, because if I expected them to be alive, then I wasn't going to be ready when they weren't. That was pretty mentally exhausting."

There were issues.

In one close call, one of the boys wouldn't breathe, he said. They had to figure out how to stimulate his breathing before sending him back in the water.

"A diver actually came up in a panic and was asking if the kid was still alive," O'Brien said.

Eight people were rescued July 8 and July 9, and five were rescued July 10, Douglas said.

"It was pretty stressful," O'Brien said. "Once we got them all out, you know, everyone was pretty excited."

But the ordeal in Tham Luang cave wasn't over yet. The pipes carrying water out of the cave began to burst shortly after the last boy made it through. O'Brien and an Air Force officer, to account for everyone in Chamber 3, stayed behind while it was evacuated.

"Everyone had come into Chamber 3," he recalled. "The water actually started to rise. We had to swim out."

O'Brien and his fellow airmen — who had never dived in a confined space before — played an integral part in one of the most improbable rescues in history. "Everything was blacked out for the most part — you couldn't see anything — and if you came up into the actual dry areas, if you didn't have a light, it was the darkest thing imaginable," he recalled. "It was a huge relief getting them all out of there. We would have been happy if anyone survived, let alone all of them."

A married father of two, O'Brien also received the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, which is awarded by the Pentagon for outstanding achievement or meritorious service in a noncombat situation.

"When we got the last kid out of the cave," he said, "that was a big moment."

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'It was a huge relief getting them all out of there. We would have been happy if anyone survived, let alone all of them.'

Tech. Sgt. Kenny O'Brien

PACIFIC

11 US troops ID'd in remains from North Korea

By MATTHEW KEELER
Stars and Stripes

OSAN AIR BASE, South Korea — More than a year after North Korea returned 55 cases of remains, 11 American troops have been identified and more are expected in coming weeks, according to the agency overseeing the process.

The remains were flown to Osan in late July, fulfilling part of the agreement reached by President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un at their first summit on June 12, 2018, in Singapore.

The cases were then transferred to another aircraft destined for Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, where the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, or DPAA, began the lengthy identification process.

DPAA "has identified 11 servicemen from those remains and we expect more than 20 additional IDs in the coming weeks," spokesman Air Force Lt. Col. Kenneth Hoffman said Friday in an email, citing ongoing forensic analyses and DNA testing.

Several families have found closure after their long-missing loved ones were identified as being among the remains, including Army Master Sgt. Charles McDaniel and Army Pfc. William Jones who were the first to be announced in September.

The other two cases were fast due to material evidence with a



Kim GEMEL/Stars and Stripes

Remains handed over by North Korea are seen before a ceremony at Osan Air Base, South Korea, on Aug. 1, 2018. Headway has been made to identify the remains delivered from North Korea. 11 US servicemembers have already been identified.

name association, which allowed a much more targeted query," Hoffman said.

More names will be released after families have been properly notified, he said.

"For the majority of the cases, which are not complete skeletons

and are in relatively poorer condition, the ID is made with a heavy reliance on DNA testing by the Armed Forces Medical Examinations System at Dover Air Force Base, Delaware," Hoffman said.

Last week, Vice President Mike Pence, who was at the re-

patriation ceremony last year in Hawaii, said in a tweet that "25 more heroes from the 55 boxes of remains" had been identified.

"As the son of a Korean War Vet, I'm grateful for the hard work by @DeptOfDefense," he wrote. Hoffman said the identification

process requires multiple pieces of evidence and techniques, including skeletal biology, dental records, X-ray comparisons, histology, historical research, material evidence, life support materials and all possible types of DNA.

Once an identification is conclusive, DPAA notifies the appropriate service casualty office, which is responsible for notifying the families and making funeral arrangements to include full military honors.

More than 7,600 Americans remain unaccounted for from the 1950-53 Korean War, which ended in an armistice instead of a peace treaty. More than 5,300 of those were believed to have been lost in the North, according to the DPAA.

"Every unaccounted-for U.S. service member is entitled to one certainty: that he or she will not be forgotten," Hoffman said.

Trump and Kim agreed to recover remains as part of their four-point Singapore summit statement, which also pledged to work toward the "complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula."

The United States had hoped to resume joint searches in the North after the 55 cases were returned, but those efforts have stalled amid the diplomatic deadlock in nuclear talks.

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Nuclear: Tension over North Korea's defiance of denuclearization grows

FROM FRONT PAGE

negotiations as soon as" Seoul and Washington conclude the joint drill this month.

"It was a long letter, much of it complaining about the ridiculous and expensive exercises," the president wrote in a series of tweets. "It was also a small apology for testing the short range missiles."

Trump said Kim promised the testing would stop when the exercises end. "I look forward to seeing Kim Jong Un in the not too distant future!" he added.

North Korea has long denounced the annual exercises, which it considers rehearsals for an invasion despite allied assurances that the drills are defensive in nature.

Trump has changed the debate by adding his own criticism of what he has called "war games" as part of his demands that South Korea pay more for maintaining some 28,500 U.S. troops on the peninsula.

The allies have sharply scaled back the size and scope of the drills since Trump announced he was "stopping the war games" after his first summit with Kim last year. They also tried changing the names.

But North Korea mocked those efforts in a separate report on Sunday, although it focused on the South and avoided criticizing Trump.

"It is a miscalculation if they think that the very change of the name of the exercise can alter its aggressive nature or that we would make it pass off quietly," KCNA quoted a senior foreign ministry official as

saying.

The current command post exercise is aimed at testing the South's capabilities as it hopes to assume operational control of the military from the U.S. should war break out.

The allies held "crisis management staff training" last week and began a 10-day "combined command post training" on Sunday, according to South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff.

North Korea's recent spate of tests began on July 25, when it launched two missiles that officials believe were modeled after Russia's Iskander and appear to be designed to avoid U.S. and South Korean defenses.

By only firing short-range missiles, the North is displaying a threat to South Korea and U.S. bases in the region while maintaining Kim's promise not to test long-range missiles or nuclear weapons.

Trump has signaled that would be a red line, although U.S.-led United Nations Security Council sanctions resolutions ban the North from using any ballistic missile technology.

Melissa Hanham, the deputy director of the Open Nuclear Network, said the tests show that North Korea has had two short-range ballistic missiles under development this year despite diplomacy.

"This is not denuclearizing, this is not even close," she wrote on Twitter.

Meanwhile, the North's director-general of the foreign ministry's department of



KCNA

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, right, watches a missile launch in this photo released Sunday.

American affairs, Kwon Jong-gun, warned Seoul that its participation in the exercise and denunciation of the recent missile tests put Inter-Korean relations at risk.

He referred to Trump's recent comments, saying that "even the U.S. president made a remark which in effect recognizes the self-defensive rights of a sovereign state, saying that it is a small missile test which a lot of countries do."

"Given that the military exercise clearly puts us as an enemy in its concept ... an inter-Korean contact itself will be difficult to be made unless they put an end to such

a military exercise or before they make a plausible excuse" for the drills, Kwon said, according to KCNA.

South Korea's presidential office dismissed the saber-rattling.

"It's our shared understanding among the two Koreas and the United States that resuming the stalled denuclearization negotiations continues to be the top priority," an official told the Yonhap News Agency on Sunday.

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MILITARY

US and Indonesia end 25th year of CARAT exercises

By CHRISTIAN LOPEZ
Stars and Stripes

A weeklong naval exercise designed to improve the ability of Indonesian and U.S. naval forces to work together has wrapped up its 25th year in Indonesia.

Indonesia has taken part in Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training, or CARAT, a multi-phase exercise involving several countries in South and Southeast Asia, since its inception in 1995.

Sri Lanka was the first stop for CARAT this year, which kicked off in April. However, those drills were cut short after a series of terrorist bombings at churches and other public buildings on Easter Sunday killed as many as 250 people.

CARAT's Indonesian leg — which began Aug. 1 and covered seven days of activities at sea and on shore — took place in the Java Sea, just south of the contested South China Sea, where Beijing has built up shallow reefs and islets into militarized outposts.

In December, the South China Morning Post reported that Indonesia had opened a military base in the southern point of the South China Sea as a "deterrent against any potential security threats, particularly on border areas."

Indonesia and China have had several maritime run-ins in the resource-rich area, the report said. In 2016, an Indonesian patrol boat seized a Chinese fishing vessel, which was released after a Chinese coast guard boat rammed it.

"No country alone can ensure maritime security," Lt. David Copeland, the domain awareness expert for Destroyer Squadron 7, said in a Navy statement issued earlier in the CARAT exercise. "It requires coordinated efforts by all regional partner nations and agencies to actively share information in a transparent and timely manner so we can conduct combined maritime security operations, ensuring safe and secure seas for all."

At sea the U.S. and Indonesian



CHRISTOPHER A. VELOICAZA/U.S. Navy

Lt. Ben Ralen of Destroyer Squadron 7 climbs aboard the USS Montgomery during a passenger transfer as part of Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training Indonesia 2019 on Aug. 5.

navies worked together on submarine operations; visit, board, search and seizure drills; and dive team training.

The nations also created a Maritime Domain Awareness Information Sharing Center, according to the statement. The hub serves as a tool focused on gathering intelligence about potential maritime threats such as illegal fishing, human trafficking, weapons smuggling, terrorism, piracy and environmental threats.

During the shore phase of

CARAT Indonesia, U.S. Marines deployed to Darwin, Australia, trained for jungle survival alongside Indonesian Marines. Both countries' navies also exchanged experts on preventive medicine. Participating ships and units included littoral combat ship USS Montgomery, expeditionary fast transport USNS Fall River, U.S. Coast Guard cutter Stratton, submarine support ship MV Carolyn Chouest and an anti-submarine warfare P-8 Poseidon aircraft.

Staff from Task Force 73, the

Singapore-based logistics command for 7th Fleet, and Destroyer Squadron 7, also of 7th Fleet, took part in the exercise, the statement added.

"Any time we have the opportunity to conduct such extensive and dynamic training, it has an undeniable impact on our ability to effectively integrate forces," Capt. Ann McCann, deputy commander of Destroyer Squadron 7, said in the Navy statement.

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Army uses mumps case to stress vaccinations

By MARTIN EGNASH
Stars and Stripes

GRAFENWOEHR, Germany — A U.S. soldier based in Vicenza, Italy, was recently diagnosed with the mumps virus while on temporary duty to Germany, the Army said Friday.

Army officials believe the servicemember contracted the virus before he left Italy and brought it with him to Germany, where he was training at Grafenwoehr. The soldier was diagnosed with mumps on Wednesday.

Army officials are now urging base personnel to stay up to date on their vaccinations.

"Out of an abundance of caution, anyone who had close contact with the affected individual has been contacted and is receiving appropriate medical evaluations and vaccinations," the Army said in a statement Friday.

The Army has contacted individuals who have had prolonged contact with the soldier and tested them to prevent the virus from spreading.

Mumps is a contagious disease caused by a virus that spreads easily through coughing and sneezing. Symptoms include headache, fever, muscle aches, fatigue, a loss of appetite and, most recognizably, swollen glands under the ears or jaw. Not all people who get

mumps have all of the symptoms. Soldiers are typically vaccinated against mumps, measles and rubella in the common MMR vaccination.

"All soldiers are required to receive the MMR vaccine and remain current as part of their medical readiness," Alain Polynice, a spokesman for Medical Department Activity Bavaria, told Stars and Stripes on Friday.

The soldier treated for mumps at Grafenwoehr was up to date on all his vaccinations, including MMR, Polynice said.

However, the vaccine is not 100% effective.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, one dose of the MMR vaccine is about 78% effective at preventing mumps. A second dose increases the effectiveness to 88%.

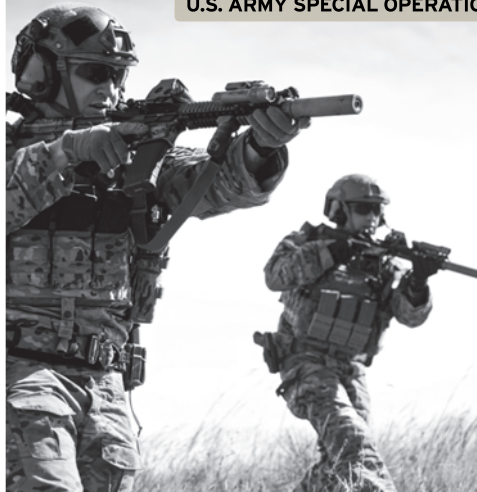
"MMR vaccine prevents most, but not all, cases of mumps and complications caused by the disease," Polynice said.

Some people who receive two doses of MMR can still get mumps, especially if they have prolonged, close contact with someone who has the disease. But if a vaccinated person does get mumps, they will likely have a less severe illness than an unvaccinated person, he added.

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ACCOMPLISH WHAT OTHERS CAN'T

U.S. ARMY SPECIAL OPERATIONS



MILITARY

Legacies: Families take their case to Capitol Hill

FROM FRONT PAGE

Vietnamese military men and 11 crewmembers. Their families say they were Rangers, and the accident report states the American soldiers were "mainly highly trained electronics and communications specialists."

The war has been over more than 40 years, but the soldiers' mission is still a mystery. The families have been unable to prove that their loved ones were headed to the Vietnam-defined combat zone, one of the criteria to get a name placed on the wall.

At the time, the Milwaukee Sentinel reported that the 93 soldiers on the flight were en route to Saigon, South Vietnam, to "relieve other American soldiers who have been helping train Vietnamese troops in the fight against Viet Cong guerrillas."

Even so, there are strict requirements before names are placed on the memorial.

According to the nonprofit Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, Department of Defense guidelines require that: a service-member died within the defined combat zone of Vietnam; died while on a combat or combat-support mission to or from the defined combat zone of Vietnam; or died within 120 days from wounds, physical injuries or illnesses incurred or diagnosed in the defined combat zone.

The families

Some of the families learned about the Flying Tiger flight — and one another — through websites and Facebook pages dedicated to the plane and its passengers. A day before the 57th anniversary of the plane's disappearance, several family members were meeting each other for the first time, in an ornate room on Capitol Hill in Washington, waiting to speak to congressional aides about their quest.

The families represent four men on the flight: Spc. 4 Donald Sargent, of Maine, Sgt. 1st Class Melvin Hatt, of Michigan, Sgt. 1st Class Raymond Myers, of Arizona, and Sgt. John Karibo, of Ohio.

The niece of Sargent, Jennifer Kirk, of South Portland, Maine, came with her father, Clifton Sargent, 56, as well as his sister, brother and mother.

Growing up, Kirk didn't know what happened to her uncle because her grandmother, until her death, believed that he was coming home. No one was allowed to open or even touch his trunk.

Fifty years later, I was able to get my dad and his sister to open the trunk to see if there were any papers, any note stating what their mission was, because we had nothing," she said.

Kirk's brother, named Donald after his uncle, contacted the office of Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, and was able to get his uncle's military records. The family was able to learn about his

For photos and a video of the families' visit, go to:

www.strips.com/go/flyingtiger

military service but not about his last mission. Jennifer Kirk hoped by meeting with the other families, they could learn more about what happened to her uncle.

"It wasn't right on how it was all presented, and how they were on this secret mission, and not being put on that wall because they went and they did what that mission was supposed to be," she said.

"It's not the soldier's fault that the plane disappeared. Don't even know why it blew up."

She said she brought her family, especially her son, to Washington so they could

fight together and keep the men's legacies alive. She doesn't want her uncle to be forgotten.

"The generation that we're at now with my dad, they're going to stop saying the name. We can't stop saying their name ... so they don't die twice."

Jennifer Kirk
niece of Spc. 4
Donald Sargent

the last reminder of their legacy when it's etched into a headstone. The Vietnam Wall lists the dead and missing without rank, highlighting their names.

Over the next three days, these Flying Tiger families from across the country would be united by a passion to make sure their lost soldiers would be remembered forever.

On Capitol Hill

Behind closed doors, the families told their stories to aides from several Senate offices. The daughter of Sgt. 1st Class Melvin Hatt, Donna Ellis Cornell, 62, brought folders bulging with documents for each senator on the Armed Services Committee, detailing what the families know.

She was the main force behind the meeting, petitioning senators for the second year in a row to have a full committee hearing to tell their stories directly to the senators.

She also suggested that if the Defense Department was unwilling to change the criteria for the wall, Congress could pass a law, signed by the president, to exempt



PHOTOS BY CATLIN M. KENNEY/Stars and Stripes

A portrait of Spc. 4 Donald Sargent, brother of Clifton Sargent, leans against the Vietnam Veteran Memorial in Washington on March 16.

the Flying Tiger soldiers.

The decision to add a name is left to the DOD, not the Memorial Fund that oversees the wall.

According to Jennifer Kirk, it was not until the senate aides heard the stories firsthand that they began to understand what was at stake. "Like, I understand why you guys are fighting this fight," she said.

Their reactions, she said, gave her "a little glimmer of hope."

She would like to see something change while her father is alive so he knows that it happened: "Couldn't do that for my grandmother; hopefully, for my dad," she said.

Her father said, "If this doesn't happen, we're all going to be feeling that we've been betrayed by our government."

One of the Senate aides at the meeting was from the office of Sen. Gary Peters, D-Mich., the home state of Ellis Cornell.

"During the Vietnam War, our brave men and women were deployed thousands of miles from home in their service. The



Donna Ellis Cornell, daughter of Sgt. 1st Class Melvin Hatt, kneels before a headstone in Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia that was placed in memory of her father, as Tommy Myers and Jennifer Kirk walk nearby.

families of those who made the ultimate sacrifice have endured unimaginable pain and heartbreak," Peters said in a statement to Stars and Stripes. "Unfortunately for the families of those aboard Flying Tigers Line Flight 739/14, it is a pain that has not

been properly recognized for too long.

"I will continue to work with these families and look for ways we can honor the servicemen, members killed in the Flying Tigers crash," he said.

SEE LEGACIES ON PAGE 7

MILITARY

FBI agent rescues child who's now a Marine

BY CRAIG SAILOR

The News Tribune (Tacoma, Wash.)

An FBI agent asked only for coffee and donuts Friday morning at his retirement party.

What Troy Sowers got instead was the grown-up version of a baby he rescued from a kidnapping nearly 22 years ago in Lakewood, Wash.

That baby is now a 170-pound U.S. Marine Corps Corporal stationed in Camp Lejeune, N.C. But on Aug. 23, 1997, Stewart Rembert was just a babe in the arms of his mother, Melinda Coen, at St. Clare Hospital in Lakewood.

That's when a woman sporting a lab coat and implying she was a medical worker bluffed her way past two security checkpoints, walked into the room where baby and mother were resting and offered to take Stewart to the nursery for the night.

At about 3 a.m., a floor nurse made a routine check of Coen's room. She realized the baby was missing and sounded the alarm.

An empty bassinet was found about 50 feet from Coen's room, next to an exit door.

Sowers was one of 30 investigators the FBI assigned to the case.

The Lakewood Police Department put a dozen detectives on it. News organizations spread information, including a sketch of the woman, throughout the region.

Sowers, then 28, was new to the bureau and assigned to the agency's Tacoma, Wash., office.

"I had graduated from the FBI academy approximately two or three months prior to that," he told The News Tribune on Friday.

Law enforcement officials began zeroing in on a suspect after an employee at a Lakewood Fred Meyer store saw a woman shoplifting some baby's clothing while carrying an infant. He followed her, saw her car, then called 911 with a description.

Authorities searched the Fort Lewis home of the suspect, Kimberly K. Skurzewski, 30, and found diapers and other items associated with a newborn — but not Stewart.

Sowers was assigned to interview her. A Lakewood police detective came along.

"When we really got suspicious talking to her, the local detective went over to the stepdaughter and asked, 'Where is the baby at?' The daughter broke down and said, 'I don't know. We put him next to a dumpster,'" Sowers recalled Friday afternoon.

When Skurzewski came home with the baby earlier that day, she told her children that she had bought him for \$500. When she saw media reports about the kidnapping, she panicked and left the baby behind a store.

Sowers, the Lakewood detective, the kidnapper, stepdaughter and military police got into vehicles and drove around Lakewood looking for the store.

The detective put the command post on alert in case a massive search was needed. But it wasn't.

"As we pulled up behind that store, right next to the dumpster, was a little cardboard box, and she pointed to the box and said, 'He's in that box,'" Sowers said.

"I jumped out of the car and went over to the box and saw Stewart there and picked him up," Sowers said. "He wasn't cry-



U.S. Marine
Cpl. Stewart Rembert embraces FBI Special Agent Troy Sowers during the agent's retirement ceremony at the FBI Field Office in Knoxville, Tenn., on Friday.

Robert Vachon
U.S. Marine Corps

ing or anything. He was probably exhausted. He was probably crying there a few hours."

Sowers held Stewart for the few minutes it took for paramedics to arrive.

Skurzewski was sentenced to 10 years in prison, more than seven times the ordinary maximum term for kidnapping.

It wasn't until he was 14 that Rembert became curious about the incident and got a fuller story from his parents.

"I got to thinking, 'Wow, I actually might not have been here. That's crazy,'" Rembert said Friday.

Rembert joined the Marines straight out of high school. Military service is a tradition in the Rembert family. His father was in the Navy, a brother was in the Marines and a sister was in the

Air Force. "It was only natural," he said. "I grew up loving hearing about everything the military did."

Two weeks ago, while at Camp Lejeune, he received a message from one of Sowers' co-workers. They wanted to bring him to the agent's retirement party.

He embraced the plan. "I led a good life," Rembert said. "He could see all the tribulations of his hard work come to fruition."

On Friday, Sowers retired as the special agent in charge of the FBI's Knoxville, Tenn., field office.

"In one of my final supervisors' meetings, I commented that I felt like I've had a pretty solid career," Sowers said. "In the first couple of months, I pulled a baby out of a box. And when I ended my

career, I got to meet Dolly Parton here in Tennessee."

His coworkers started digging and found Rembert. He was on Facebook.

On Friday morning, Sowers had no idea of what was coming.

The story of Rembert's rescue was retold. A current photo of him was shown on a screen.

"I had a few seconds to tell myself, 'Did they actually bring him here in person?'" Sowers recalled.

Rembert walked in the door to a round of applause.

"When I saw him, I had to pause a couple of seconds to keep my composure," Sowers said.

"It was a wonderful way to leave the bureau," Sowers said. "To actually see the good he is doing and to meet him on my last day in the office."

Legacies: Lawmaker submits bill that would allow names to be added to wall



Caitlin M. Kenney/Stars and Stripes

Kimberly Steinman-Elmqvist points to names on the wall as Clifford Sargent looks on.

FROM PAGE 6

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial on the National Mall cuts into the Earth, its black stone walls engraved with more than 58,000 names.

As the Flying Tigers families entered the memorial, Kimberly Steinman-Elmqvist, 57, pointed out a panel where there was "plenty of room" to put the names of their loved ones.

She is the daughter of Sgt. John Karibio, who died when she was only 20 months old. She was told by her mother that he had been trained in biological, chemical and radiological warfare.

This was 63-year-old Tommy Myers' first visit to the memorial, something he said he has wanted to do for most of his life. He is the son of Sgt. 1st Class Raymond Myers and was told that his father was a supply sergeant in the Army.

He later discovered that his father could speak five languages and had been stationed at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., a military electronics and communications equipment testing site going back to the mid-1950s. It is now home

to the U.S. Army Intelligence Center of Excellence.

The experience of seeing the memorial "hurts and it helps," Myers said. "Now that I'm here, there's only one thing missing, it's the names of those 93 Rangers," he said.

The group took a family portrait before the Wall, and as Steinman-Elmqvist was saying that the Rangers and crew were looking down on them, the sun came out from behind the clouds.

"They're all here," she said.

Reading the names

The group walked a short way to the Vietnam Women's Memorial before sitting on a nearby bench. Surrounded by the other family members, Ellis Cornell read the names of the soldiers and crew of Flying Tiger Line Flight 739.

"May they rest in peace," she said after reading the final name.

"And get on the wall," Robert Rogers added. The Vietnam veteran joined the families on their visit to Washington, bringing 93 personalized dog tags with him

from California.

At Arlington National Cemetery there are headstones in memory of eight of the men who were on the flight, Ellis Cornell said. One of them was for her father, Melvin Lewis Hatt. She found out the night before her visit that it had been placed by her grandmother.

"It's pretty overwhelming," she said of seeing the headstone for the first time.

Having family members of those who served with her father alongside her at the cemetery was also overwhelming, she said.

"We've been up until now connecting online and so on. And in a short amount of time, we've become family," Ellis Cornell said.

Rogers placed a penny on top of each headstone, signifying that someone had visited, and then saluted.

On June 18, lawmaker Peters submitted a bill to Congress titled "Flying Tiger Flight 739 Act" that — if it becomes law — would allow the names of the 93 soldiers to be added to the wall.

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WAR/MILITARY

Afghan leader rejects foreign interference

By RAHIM FAIEZ
AND CARA ANNA
Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — Afghanistan's president Sunday rejected foreign interference as the United States and the Taliban appear to be closing in on a peace deal without the Afghan government at the table.

President Ashraf Ghani spoke during the Muslim holiday Eid-al-Adha and as U.S. and Taliban negotiators continue their work in the Gulf nation of Qatar, where the insurgents have a political office.

Speaking after the Eid prayers, Ghani insisted that next month's presidential election is essential so that Afghanistan's leader will have a powerful mandate to decide the country's future after years of war.

"Our future cannot be decided outside, whether in the capital cities of our friends, enemies or neighbors. The fate of Afghanistan will be decided here in this homeland," he said. "We don't want anyone to intervene in our affairs."

U.S. envoy Zalmay Khalilzad is seeking a peace deal by Sept. 1, weeks before the vote. The two sides are expected to agree on the withdrawal of some 20,000 U.S. and NATO troops in return for Taliban guarantees that Afghanistan would not be a base for other extremist groups.

Few details have emerged, but Khalilzad and the lead Taliban negotiator, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar, are being traveling in recent days to brief several coun-

'Our future cannot be decided outside ... The fate of Afghanistan will be decided here in this homeland.'

Ashraf Ghani
Afghanistan president

tries involved in the process on the latest developments.

The Taliban spokesman in Qatar, Suhail Shaheen, who has said a deal is expected at the end of this round of talks, on Sunday issued an Eid message expressing the hope that Afghanistan "will celebrate future Eids under the Islamic system, without occupation, under an environment of permanent peace and unity."

The Taliban have refused to negotiate with the Afghan government, dismissing it as a U.S. puppet, and on Tuesday they declared the Sept. 28 election a "sham." They warned fellow Afghans to stay away from campaign rallies and the polls, saying such gatherings could be targeted. A day later the group claimed responsibility for a suicide bombing that targeted security forces in Kabul. The attack killed 14 people and wounded 145, most of them civilians.

The Taliban control roughly half of Afghanistan and are at their strongest since the U.S.-led invasion toppled their



NISHANUDDIN KHAN/AP

Afghanistan's President Ashraf Ghani, center, speaks after offering Eid al-Adha prayers at the presidential palace in Kabul, Afghanistan, on Sunday. Ghani is urging the nation to determine its fate without foreign interference as the United States and the Taliban appear to near a peace deal without the Afghan government at the table.

five-year-old government in 2001 after the group had harbored al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden. More than 2,400 U.S. service personnel have died in Afghanistan since then.

Ghani, stung by being excluded from the peace talks, on Sunday pleaded for national unity.

"Peace is the desire of each Afghan and peace will come, there shouldn't be any doubt about it," he said. "But we want a peace in which each Afghan has dignity. We don't want a peace in which Afghans wouldn't have dignity. We don't want a peace that would cause people to leave their country. We don't want brain drain and we don't want investment drain."

A peace deal would be followed by intra-Afghan talks, but it is not clear whether the Taliban would agree to talk to Kabul government members in their official capacity or only as ordinary Afghans, as in the past.

The U.S. and NATO formally concluded their combat mission in Afghanistan in 2014. The American and allied troops that remain are conducting strikes on the Taliban and the local Islamic State affiliate, and working to train and build the Afghan military.

President Donald Trump has publicly expressed his exasperation with America's continued involvement in Afghanistan and a desire to bring troops home.

USS Porter sails into Black Sea as Navy boosts patrol in area



Yoruerk Isik

The U.S. Navy destroyer USS Porter is seen transiting the Bosphorus on Thursday on its way to the Black Sea.

By SCOTT WYLAND
Stars and Stripes

The destroyer USS Porter arrived at the Bulgarian Black Sea port of Varna on Friday, marking the sixth time this year the Navy has sent a warship to the region.

"The naval operations we conduct in the Black Sea with our allies and partners maintain the strong relationships that are necessary for regional stability," Vice Adm. Lisa M. Franchetti, 6th Fleet commander, said in a statement.

The Russian Black Sea Fleet's Smetlivy destroyer is monitoring the USS Porter's movements, Tass news agency reported, citing the Russian defense ministry.

The increased frequency of U.S. destroyers patrolling Black

Sea waters is likely to cause Russian leaders concern because of the ships' firepower and missile-defense capabilities, said Michael Petersen, Naval War College's director of Russia Maritime Studies Institute.

The USS Carney took part in the multinational Sea Breeze naval exercise, hosted by the U.S. and Ukraine, in the region in July. Prior to that, four U.S. warships conducted Black Sea operations at various times between January and April.

Russia has reinforced its fleet in the Black Sea — perhaps a sign that repeated U.S. patrols there are stressing its regular fleet there, Petersen said.

"Russia continues to view the deployment of U.S. ships to the Black Sea with suspicion," Pe-

tersen said. "They view Crimea, and by extension the Black Sea, as a key strategic bastion for protecting their southern flank."

The Navy and NATO began increasing their presence in the Black Sea after Russia annexed Crimea in 2014. Security patrols increased after the Russian navy seized three Ukrainian vessels in the Kerch Strait last November.

Two days before the USS Porter arrived in the region, four Ukrainian soldiers were killed in eastern Ukraine when Russian-backed separatists fired rocket-propelled grenades into their positions, despite a cease-fire between the two sides.

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NATION

Epstein suicide sparks round of conspiracies

By DAVID KLEPPER
AND AMANDA SEITZ
Associated Press

Jeffrey Epstein's apparent suicide Saturday morning in a federal jail launched new conspiracy theories online in a saga that has provided fodder for them for years, fueled by Epstein's ties to princes, politicians and other famous and powerful people.

Online theorists Saturday quickly offered unsubstantiated speculation — including some retweeted by President Donald Trump — that Epstein's death wasn't a suicide, or it was faked.

That chatter picked up on the conjecture that resurfaced after Epstein's July 6 arrest on allegations that he orchestrated a sex-trafficking ring designed to bring him teenage girls. Some of his accusers have described being sexually abused by the wealthy financier's friends and acquaintances.

The combination created fertile ground for theories and misinformation to breed on social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.

Epstein, 66, had been denied bail and faced up to 45 years behind bars on federal sex trafficking and conspiracy charges unsealed last month. He had pleaded not guilty and was awaiting trial next year.

His relationships with Trump, former President Bill Clinton and Britain's Prince Andrew were at the center of those online rumors and theories, many of which question what politicians knew about Epstein's alleged sex crimes.

Unraveling Epstein's vast estate could take years

By ANDREW BORYGA
(Deerfield Beach, Fla.)
Sun-Sentinel

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. — Jeffrey Epstein's surprise death Saturday morning in a New York jail casts uncertainty into the management of the considerable assets the wealthy financier left behind.

Although Epstein has long been rumored to be a billionaire, recent court documents suggest his fortune is worth a little over \$559 million.

Included in that number is a Manhattan estate valued at over \$50 million and a Palm Beach estate valued a hair over \$12 million.

Spencer Kuvlin, a Palm Beach attorney who represented three of Epstein's victims in a first federal case against him over a decade ago, has no doubt that new victims who have come forward in recent

months will go after Epstein's estate.

However, Kuvlin is also quite certain that those victims will face an uphill legal battle before they ever see a penny. "It's going to be a legal mess for years to come," he said.

Kuvlin, whose own clients have already settled cases with Epstein, said he did not know any specifics about what might happen to Epstein's wealth and whether Epstein left behind a will.

However, Kuvlin did say that during the initial federal case against Epstein in 2008, a full asset search was conducted which revealed that much of Epstein's assets were split among multiple corporations, entities, trusts and offshore accounts.

"It's going to be a morass of legal wrangling to figure out all the connections between everything," Kuvlin said.

Others theories, however, have been easily debunked.

For example, days after his arrest online memes and Facebook statuses wrongly claimed the Obama administration, in order to protect former President Clinton, forged a once-secret deal in 2008 in Florida that allowed

him to plead guilty to soliciting a minor for prostitution to avoid more serious charges. The deal was actually executed before President Barack Obama took office, under former President George W. Bush.

Meanwhile, a manipulated photo, shared by thousands on

Twitter and Facebook, falsely claimed to show Epstein with Trump and a young Ivanka Trump, the president's daughter.

Both Clinton and Trump have denied being privy to Epstein's alleged scheme.

Clinton spokesman Angel Urena said the former president "knows nothing about the terrible crimes Jeffrey Epstein pleaded guilty to in Florida some years ago or those with which he has been recently charged in New York." He said that, in 2002 and 2003, Clinton took four trips on Epstein's plane with multiple stops and that staff and his Secret Service detail traveled on every leg.

Trump has acknowledged knowing Epstein but said he "had a falling out with him a long time ago."

Other Epstein theories floating online have been darker, especially after Epstein was found injured on the floor of his cell last month with bruises on his neck. Some online commentators described it as a "murder attempt." "Men in high places want Epstein dead," one Twitter user wrote.

Hours after Epstein's death Saturday, as the hashtag #EpsteinMurder was trending worldwide on Twitter, the president joined Twitter speculation around Epstein's death while under the federal government's watch.

Trump, who rose to conservative prominence by falsely claiming Obama wasn't born in the U.S., retweeted unsubstantiated claims about Epstein's death.

Other politicians also took to social media to question the circumstances.

Republican Sen. Rick Scott of Florida, the state where some of Epstein's alleged sexual abuse crimes took place, suggested the possibility that others might have been involved in Epstein's death when he called on corrections officials to explain what happened at the Metropolitan Correctional Center in Manhattan.

"The Federal Bureau of Prisons must provide answers on what systemic failures of the MCC Manhattan or criminal acts allowed this coward to deny justice to his victims," he tweeted.

Former Mayor Rudy Giuliani, now an attorney for Trump, tweeted out several questions about Epstein's death.

"Who was watching? What does camera show? ... Follow the motives," Giuliani tweeted Saturday afternoon.

The FBI and the Department of Justice's Office of the Inspector General will investigate the circumstances surrounding Epstein's death, Attorney General William Barr said.

"Mr. Epstein's death raises serious questions that must be answered," Barr said in a news release.

Epstein's suicide was likely recorded by jail cameras, according to Preet Bharara, the former federal prosecutor in Manhattan.

"One hopes it is complete, conclusive, and secured," he tweeted.

Calif. stabbing suspect pleads not guilty

By AMY TAXIN
Associated Press

GARDEN GROVE, Calif. — The suspect in a Southern California stabbing rampage that left four people dead and two injured pleaded not guilty Friday to murder, attempted murder and other counts.

Zachary Castaneda was arraigned in his jail cell instead of court after refusing to leave his jail cell, Orange County District Attorney Todd Spitzer said in a tweet.

Castaneda was arrested Wednesday by police responding to two hours of slashing and stabbing attacks in Garden Grove and

Santa Ana.

Authorities said Castaneda, 33, was covered in blood when he was taken into custody after walking out of a 7-Eleven store and dropping a knife and a gun that he'd cut from the belt of a security guard he'd just killed.

The 11 felonies filed against Castaneda also included assault with a deadly weapon to cause great bodily injury, aggravated mayhem, robbery and burglary. Castaneda had been kept in restraints when detectives tried to interview him.

"He remained violent with us through the night," Garden Grove Police Chief Tom DaRe said. "He never told us why he did this."

Authorities on Friday said Gerardo Fresnares Beltran, 63, was fatally stabbed in his Garden Grove apartment. His roommate Helmut Hauprich, 62, was also killed in the attack. Castaneda was their neighbor.

Robert Parker, 58, of Orange, and Pascual Rioja Lorenzo, 39, of Garden Grove were stabbed separately in Santa Ana.

Court records show that Castaneda was a gang member with a criminal history of assault and weapon and drug crimes.

Castaneda's criminal history dates back to 2004 and includes a prison stint for possession of methamphetamine for sale while armed with an assault rifle.



MARCIO JOSE SANCHEZ/AP

Garden Grove Police Chief Tom DaRe prepares to address the media next to a mug shot of Zachary Castaneda, who pleaded not guilty, in Garden Grove, Calif., Thursday.



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STARS AND STRIPES

NATION

Families mourn, bury those killed in Ohio and Texas

Associated Press

DAYTON, Ohio — Mourners gathered across the country Saturday to remember the lives of a graduate student beloved by friends, a man who died in his son's arms and a mother who shielded her infant from gunfire.

The funerals were among several being held for people who died in mass shootings last weekend in Dayton, Ohio, and El Paso, Texas.

Investigators in Texas said a gunman opened fire at a Walmart on Aug. 3, targeting Mexicans and killing 22 people. Less than 24 hours later, another shooter killed nine people in a popular Dayton nightlife area.

Every seat was filled and the hallways were lined with mourners in Washington, Pa., at the service for Nicholas Cumer, 25. The graduate student in the master of cancer care program at Saint Francis University in Loretto, Pa., was killed in Dayton. Elementary schoolteachers, high school friends, fraternity brothers and relatives were joined by scores of others as white folding chairs were set up in the parking lot to handle the overflow.

"He was just infectious. He had a heart bigger than his chest," said Pastor Brian Greenleaf, of Washington Alliance Church, after officiating the service.

Greenleaf started the service by saying Cumer would probably be "smiling and laughing throughout this whole service."

"Because the images I have of Nick are just that," the pastor said. "Heaven is a little bit better today because of Nicholas Cumer."

Hundreds of people, including Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine and Dayton Mayor Nan Whaley, attended Derrick Fudge's funeral at St. John Missionary Baptist Church in Springfield, Ohio, the Dayton Daily News reported.

Fudge died in the arms of his son, Dion Green. He was remembered as a loving family man who painted houses and loved to fish and cook.

Green said his father spoke often of his willingness to die for him. Green previously told the Springfield News-Sun he believes his father protected him from being killed.

Green said Saturday that his father, who was 57, was a great person who was always there to help when needed.

In a eulogy for her brother, Twyla Southall said Fudge lived a "simple" life, but one he loved.

"I don't understand why my brother died in his son's arms, but I am so grateful he was there for his father," Southall said.

Burial services for Saeed Saleh, 38, were also held Saturday morning in Dayton, according to the Daily News. Saleh, who was originally from Eritrea and recently immigrated to the U.S., was remembered as a "humble and quiet person" by a spokesman for the family.

In El Paso, a requiem Mass was offered for Javier Amir Rodriguez, 15, a high school sophomore and avid soccer player who was at the Walmart with his uncle when he was killed.

A burial was also scheduled for Jordan Anchondo, who died shielding her infant son from gunfire. Her 2-month-old son was treated for broken bones but was orphaned after Jordan and her husband, Andre, were killed.



ANGIE WANG/AP

A relative attempts to console Dion Green, center, before the funeral for his father, Derrick Fudge, on Saturday at a church in Springfield, Ohio. Fudge, 57, was the oldest of nine who were killed when a gunman opened fire outside a bar early Sunday in Dayton, Ohio.



JORGE SALGADO/AP

A group of mourners embrace after the funeral service for Jordan Anchondo at San Jose Funeral Homes in El Paso, Texas, on Saturday.

Mourners hug at the front of Ned Peppers bar while they gather at the scene of a mass shooting before a prayer vigil Aug. 4 in Dayton, Ohio. People observed a moment of silence at 1:05 a.m. Sunday to honor the victims.

JOHN MINCHILLO/AP



Dayton bar patrons pay tribute 1 week after mass shooting

Associated Press

DAYTON, Ohio — People gathered at the scene of the Dayton, Ohio, mass shooting to pay tribute to the victims.

The Dayton Daily News reported people observed a moment of silence at 1:05 a.m. Sunday at Ned Peppers Bar in the city's popular entertainment district.

The song "We Are Family" then played over loudspeakers. The newspaper reported that

many people visited the district Sunday from out of town. Ty Sullivan came from Columbus, Ohio, with her family. She said she "felt a need to be in this area."

Nine people were killed in the Aug. 4 attack. More than 30 were injured.

Investigators say Connor Betts, 24, opened fire with an AR-15-style gun outside the district's businesses.

He was killed by police within less than 30 seconds.

NATION

Texas and Ohio: 2 shootings, 2 responses

By CHUCK LINDELL

Austin American-Statesman

AUSTIN, Texas — The Republican governors of Texas and Ohio — tragically linked by mass shootings that occurred hours apart last weekend — are backed by solid GOP legislatures in states that sent their electoral votes to President Donald Trump in 2016, but each has taken a different path in responding to the attacks.

Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine laid out his response in a news conference Tuesday, two days after angry shouts of “Do something!” interrupted his remarks during a vigil for the nine people killed in Dayton.

DeWine unveiled a 17-point plan featuring tougher penalties for gun-related crimes and an improved mental health response.

His plan also included two proposals that were met with skepticism from gun-rights advocates in Ohio — proposals that, thus far in Texas, have been shut down by Republican leaders and Second Amendment activists.

First, DeWine asked the General Assembly to pass a “red flag” law that would let family members and police petition the courts for an order temporarily removing guns from a person deemed to be dangerous to themselves or others.

Second, the first-term governor proposed a law requiring back-

ground checks for all firearm transactions in the state, though not for gifts among family members and “certain other limited uses.”

DeWine, recalling the demand made at the vigil, said his to-do list was built on initiatives that he believed could pass.

“Some in the crowd were angry. In fact, I’m sure everyone was angry,” he said. “Some chanted ‘Do something,’ and they were absolutely right. We must do something, and that is exactly what we are going to do.”

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott appeared before reporters a day later in El Paso, also vowing to do something but taking a more measured approach to the third mass-fatality shooting in his state in less than two years.

“The people of Texas, the people of El Paso deserve to be safe. It is our responsibility to begin the process of ensuring that safety,” he said Wednesday after meeting with Republican legislative leaders and El Paso’s elected representatives, all Democrats, to discuss that process after 22 people were killed at a Walmart in the city.

Abbott said at least two roundtable discussions — similar to the three days of meetings after a gunman killed eight fellow students and two teachers at Santa Fe High School last year — will be held this month to kick around ideas for dealing with gun vio-



JOSHUA A. BICKEL, THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH/AP

Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine speaks about the Dayton mass shooting on Tuesday at the Ohio Statehouse in Columbus, Ohio. Facing pressure to take action after the latest mass shooting in the U.S., DeWine urged the GOP-led state Legislature Tuesday to pass laws requiring background checks for nearly all gun sales and allowing courts to restrict firearms access for people perceived as threats.

lence and an attack that police say was committed by a white supremacist motivated by racism and hate.

But Abbott, a strong supporter of the Second Amendment, rejected solutions that restricted gun rights. And even though pressure is building for responses that include limits on military-style rifles and high-capacity magazines, he isn’t expected to soften that position now.

“We will act swiftly and aggressively,” he promised. “We need to also ensure that guns are not in the hands of deranged killers, while also ensuring constitutional rights are not going to be violated.”

Although Ohio is a frequent swing state in presidential elections, with its 18 electoral votes up for grabs by either major party, state-level politics have

been a one-party affair for at least a decade.

“This is a heavily Republican state, and a conservative state, at least on guns,” said Christopher Devine, assistant professor of political science at the University of Dayton.

Like their Texas counterparts, Ohio lawmakers have been expanding gun rights at a consistent pace. A law passed last year on self-defense shootings, for example, ended a legal requirement that gun owners had to prove that the shooting was legal. Now, it’s up to a prosecutor to prove that the law was broken, the same standard as in Texas and every other state.

“DeWine is saying that he’s interested in stuff that will pass. If their focus remains on mental health and addressing crime directly, I think virtually everyone

can get behind that,” Dean Rieck, executive director of the Buckeye Firearms Association, a pro-Second Amendment advocacy group said.

That’s no guarantee that DeWine can pass gun-control legislation this year, even if he has developed a closer working relationship with lawmakers than his predecessor, John Kasich, said Devine with the University of Dayton.

Trump calls for background checks, reassures NRA

By ZEKE MILLER
AND DEB RIECHMANN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump said Friday he believes he has the influence to rally Republicans around stronger federal background check laws as Congress and the White House work on a response to last weekend’s mass shootings in Texas and Ohio.

At the same time, Trump said he had assured the National Rifle Association that its gun-rights views would be “fully represented and respected.” He said he was hopeful the NRA would not be an obstacle to strengthening the nation’s gun laws.

Trump has promised to lead on tougher gun control measures before, including after the 2018 Parkland, Fla., school shooting, but little has come of it. His comments in the wake of the twin

massacres marked his most optimistic and supportive words in favor of more stringent gun laws, though he left the details vague, and it remained to be seen how much political capital Trump would throw behind marshaling Republicans on the issue.

He said Friday he now is looking for “very meaningful background checks” but is not considering a resurrection of an assault weapons ban. He said he also believes lawmakers will support “red flag” laws that allow guns to be removed from those who may be a danger to themselves and others.

“I see a better feeling right now toward getting something meaningful done,” Trump told reporters when asked why the political environment was different now.

“I have a greater influence now over the Senate and the House,” he said at the White House.

Democrats and others have

been skeptical of Trump’s commitment to genuine gun control, judging from past experience. But he said he was behind it.

“The Republicans are going to be great and lead the charge along with the Democrats,” he declared, saying he’d spoken with Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell whom he proclaimed to be “totally onboard.”

But McConnell, thus far, has only committed to a discussion of the issue. Republicans have long opposed expanding background checks — a bill passed by the Democratic-led House is stalled in McConnell’s Senate — but they face new pressure after the shootings in El Paso, Texas, and Dayton, Ohio, that left 31 people dead.

Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer tweeted in response Friday that McConnell must bring up the House-passed legislation, which Trump had previously

threatened to veto.

“To get anything meaningful done to address gun violence, we need his commitment to hold a Senate vote on the House-passed background checks legislation,” Schumer said.

As for the NRA, which has contributed millions to help Trump and other Republicans, the gun lobby’s chief executive, Wayne LaPierre, said last week that some federal gun control proposals “would make millions of law-abiding Americans less safe and less able to defend themselves and their loved ones.”

But Trump said he’d spoken with LaPierre last week and “I think in the end, Wayne and the NRA will either be there or either be a little more neutral.”

“Frankly, I really think they’re going to get there also,” he added.

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NATION

‘Hunt’ movie canceled in wake of mass shootings

By JOCELYN NOVECK
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Universal Pictures has canceled the planned September release of its controversial social satire, “The Hunt,” in the wake of recent mass shootings and amid criticism from President Donald Trump.

The movie came several days after the studio suspended the ad

campaign for the film, a gory, R-rated thriller that tells a tale of liberal “elites” hunting people in red states for sport.

In a statement Saturday, Universal said it had decided to take the further step of canceling the film’s Sept. 27 release, saying, “We understand that now is not the right time to release this film.” Left open was the

possibility that the movie could be released in theaters or on streaming at a later date.

Trump criticized the planned movie on Twitter Friday, without mentioning its name, saying it was intended “to inflame and cause chaos.”

The president also had harsh words for Hollywood in the tweet, saying “Liberal Hollywood is

Racist at the highest level.”

Asked if the decision to scrap the release had been impacted by Trump’s comments, a person familiar with the decision process, speaking on condition of anonymity to describe internal deliberations, said the cancellation had been under discussion by the studio and filmmaking team well before the comments

were made.

The studio paused the ad campaign in the middle of last week in light of the tragic mass shootings in Texas, Ohio and California.

“The Hunt,” produced by Jason Blum’s Blumhouse, stars Oscar-winner Hilary Swank and Betty Gilpin and is directed by Craig Zobel.

Gun control backers worry about changing makeup of US courts

By DON THOMPSON
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — California has some of the toughest gun laws in the nation, including a ban on the type of high-capacity ammunition magazines used in some of the nation’s deadliest mass shootings.

How long those types of laws will stand is a growing concern among gun control advocates in California and elsewhere.

A federal judiciary that is becoming increasingly conservative under President Donald Trump and the Republican-controlled U.S. Senate has gun control advocates on edge. They worry that federal courts, especially if Trump wins a second term next year and Republicans hold the Senate, will take such an expansive view of Second Amendment rights that they might overturn strict gun control laws enacted in Democratic-leaning states.

The U.S. Supreme Court so far has left plenty of room for states to enact their own gun legislation, said Adam Winkler, a gun policy expert at the University of California, Los Angeles School of Law. But he said the success of the Trump administration in appointing federal judges, including to the high court, could alter that.

“Those judges are likely to be

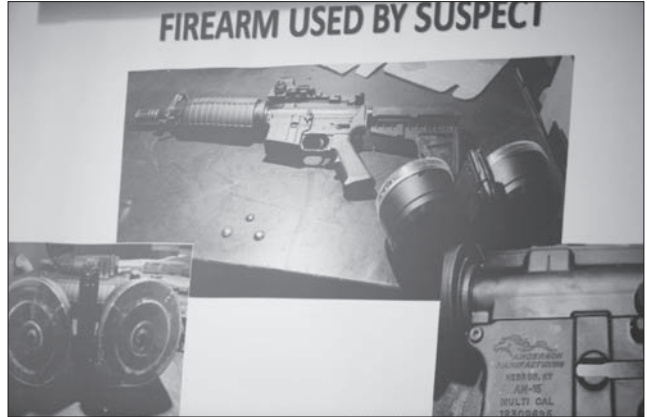
hostile to gun control measures,” Winkler said. “So I think the courts overall have made a shift to the right on guns. We’ll just have to see how that plays out.”

The legal tug of war already is playing out in California.

The state banned the sale of high-capacity ammunition magazines nearly two decades ago as one of its numerous responses to deadly mass shootings; a voter initiative passed three years ago expanded on that, banning all ammunition magazines holding more than 10 rounds, even among gun owners who already possessed them.

Earlier this year, a Republican-appointed federal judge overturned the ban, triggering a weeklong bullet-buying spree among California gun owners before he put his decision on hold pending appeal. The same judge is overseeing another lawsuit brought by gun rights groups that seeks to repeal a state law requiring background checks for ammunition buyers.

Legal experts, lawmakers and advocates on both sides said the decision in the case over ammunition limits foreshadows more conflicts between Democratic-leaning states seeking to impose tighter gun laws and an increasingly conservative federal judiciary.



ALBERT CESARE, THE CINCINNATI ENQUIRER/AP

The firearm used by shooter Connor Betts, 22, is projected on a screen during a news conference Aug. 4 about the fatal mass shooting in Dayton, Ohio.

“What you’re looking at in the Southern District of California is happening all over the country,” said Frank Zimring, a University of California, Berkeley law professor who is an expert on gun laws.

Trump has the opportunity to fill a higher percentage of federal court vacancies than any president at this point in his first term since George H.W. Bush nearly three decades ago.

To date, he has nominated 194 candidates for federal judgeships and has had 146 confirmed, out of

860 total federal district court judicial seats, according to the conservative Heritage Foundation. Of 179 seats on the federal appellate courts, Trump has nominated 46 judges and had 43 confirmed. He is poised to fill 105 vacancies in the district courts and four in the appeals courts, according to the Heritage Foundation.

The changes to the federal judiciary could mean that even gun restrictions that were previously upheld by appointees of former Republican presidents may now be in jeopardy, said Hannah

Shearer, litigation director at the San Francisco-based Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence.

“I think the judiciary is headed into a more extreme place on gun control issues because of President Trump’s appointees,” she said.

Even when gun and ammunition limits are upheld, those cases eventually could make their way to the U.S. Supreme Court, where Trump may already have tipped the balance.

After 20 years, survivors gather to remember Jewish center shooting

By SARAH PARVINI
Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — Family and friends of victims gathered on Saturday to remember the day 20 years ago when a gunman opened fire on children and staff at the North Valley Jewish Community Center in Granada Hills, Calif., wounding several people before moving on to Chatsworth, where he killed a postal worker.

Standing outside the U.S. Post Office on Devonshire Street, where a plaque commemorates the letter carrier killed in the attack, parents and siblings of the

victims called for stricter gun control laws, citing the rise in mass shootings around the country and recent violence in California, Texas and Ohio.

“People have asked me, ‘It’s been 20 years, so how does it feel?’” said Ismael Iltio, who was killed in the San Fernando Valley attack. “I’m tired of the damn thoughts and prayers. I’m tired of hearing sympathies and condolences.”

He added: “Let’s do something to change the laws.”

He and his loved ones have become part of a larger family that includes the victims wounded at

the Jewish community center, Iltio said.

“We share the same experiences and are still going through the same experiences every time we hear of a mass shooting or crimes of hate,” he said. “That’s happening way too frequently, it seems.”

On Aug. 10, 1999, Buford O. Furrow, a self-professed white supremacist and member of the Aryan Nations, walked into the lobby of the Jewish center armed with a semiautomatic weapon and started shooting, striking Isabelle Shalometh, 68, a grandmother and receptionist at the facility. The rounds also hit Benjamin

Kadish, 5; Joshua Stepakoff and James Zidell, both 6; and Mindy Finkelstein, 16, a high school senior at the time. All survived.

Furrow then stole a vehicle and drove to Chatsworth, where he fatally shot Iltio, 39, a Filipino-American postal worker who was substituting on a mail delivery route, because he thought the worker “looked Asian or Latino.”

Furrow was eventually sentenced to life in prison. The Jewish center has since closed.

“He fired 70 rounds in less than three minutes,” said Donna Finkelstein, Mindy Finkelstein’s mother. “Sound familiar?”

In the years since the shooting, Finkelstein has joined anti-gun violence movements, including the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence and Women Against Gun Violence. “We can’t forget,” she said. “Every time I hear of a shooting, I just get that sickening feeling in my stomach.”

The anniversary of the shooting comes as people across the nation are reeling from back-to-back massacres fueled by hate.

“Those who fail to learn from history are doomed to repeat it. We failed to learn the lessons of August 10, 1999,” said Rep. Brad Sherman, D-Calif.

NATION

Man who said police locked him in a closet awarded \$50M

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — A jury in Cleveland on Friday awarded \$50 million to a man who claimed police beat him while he was handcuffed and locked him in a storage closet for four days with no toilet and nothing to eat or drink but a carton of milk.

The jury award in the lawsuit filed by Arnold Black, 52, against East Cleveland and its police department included \$20 million in compensatory damages and \$30 million in punitive damages.

A different Cuyahoga County jury awarded Black \$22 million in June 2016 during a three-day trial where no attorneys representing East Cleveland attended.

The city subsequently appealed, and the lawsuit was sent back to Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court for another trial.

Whether East Cleveland can pay the jury award is uncertain. It's one of the poorest cities in Ohio and has long struggled with maintaining basic services.

An email message seeking comment was left Saturday with East Cleveland

Law Director Willa Hemmons.

Black was jailed in April 2012 after an East Cleveland detective asked a patrol officer to pull over a Black's truck, believing there was a large amount of cocaine inside.

The lawsuit said Detective Randy Hicks began punching Black in the face and head when no drugs were found, while the patrol officer held Black upright so Hicks could continue the beating. The officers then locked him in a closet being used as a holding cell.

Cleveland.com reported that Hicks again took the stand during Black's latest trial and testified the East Cleveland department had a culture of violence at the time that included the practice of roughing up suspects to get them to talk.

Black was indicted by a grand jury on drug possession, criminal tools and tampering with evidence charges. An assistant Cuyahoga County prosecutor asked that the case be dismissed in July 2012 because East Cleveland police failed to provide any evidence to support the charges. Hicks was eventually forced to resign.

Arnold Black was punched in the face and head by a detective during a traffic stop after no drugs were found. The officers then locked him in a closet being used as a holding cell.



JAMM AQUINO, HONOLULU STAR-ADVERTISER/AP

Hawaii Gov. David Ige, middle right, watches a kahiko hula performance during a visit to the ninth day of protests against the Thirty Meter Telescope at the base of Mauna Kea on Hawaii Island on July 23. Astronomers across 11 observatories on Hawaii's tallest mountain have canceled more than 2,000 hours of telescope viewing over the past four weeks because of the protests.

Astronomers lose weeks of viewing amid protests

By AUDREY McCAVEY

Associated Press

HONOLULU — Asteroids, including those that might slam into Earth. Clouds of gas and dust on the verge of forming stars. Planets orbiting stars other than our own.

This is some of the research astronomers say they missed out on as a protest blocked the road to Hawaii's tallest mountain, one of the world's premier sites for studying the skies.

Astronomers said Friday they will attempt to resume observations, but they have already lost four weeks of viewing — and in some cases, they won't be able to make up the missed research. Protesters, meanwhile, say they should not be blamed for the shutdown.

Astronomers across 11 observatories on Mauna Kea canceled more than 2,000 hours of telescope viewing, work they estimate would have led to the publication of about 450 papers in peer-reviewed scientific journals.

"Any one of them could have been spectacular, could have won Nobel Prize-winning science. We just now will never know," said Jessica Dempsey, deputy director of the East Asian Observatory, which operates one of Mauna Kea's telescopes.

Stormy weather, earthquake damage and maintenance issues have interrupted observations before, but this is the



CALEB JONES/AP

From bottom left, the Caltech Submillimeter Observatory, the James Clerk Maxwell Telescope and the Submillimeter Array are shown on Hawaii's Mauna Kea near Hilo, Hawaii.

longest that all of the observatories on the dormant Big Island volcano have been shut down since its first telescope opened a half-century ago.

The observatories' large telescopes are owned and operated by universities and consortiums of universities including the University of California and California Institute of Technology.

The national governments of Canada, France, Japan and others also fund and operate telescopes on their own or as part of a group. Astronomers around the world submit proposals to institutions they are members of to compete for valuable time on the telescopes.

Mauna Kea's dry air, clear skies and limited light pollution provide some of the world's best nighttime viewing, and its number of advanced telescopes

makes it an unparalleled place for astronomy in the Northern Hemisphere.

"Some of the best observational astronomy being done today, some of the best and most critical scientific research, is being done on Mauna Kea," said Rick Fienberg, press officer for the American Astronomical Society.

In 2011, three astronomers won the Nobel Prize in physics for work that relied on data gathered using Mauna Kea's W.M. Keck Observatory. Their analysis of exploding stars, or supernovas, showed the expansion of the universe is accelerating.

Earlier this year, the East Asian Observatory was part of a global team that captured the first image of a black hole, a breakthrough that stirred talk of another Nobel.

American Legion tries to inspire inmates

By KEN DE LA BASTIDE

The Herald Bulletin (Anderson, Ind.)

PENDLETON — They are men behind the walls of the Pendleton Correctional Facility for a variety of reasons, but their common bond was serving time in the U.S. military.

The George Vickery American Legion Post 608 was started in 2008 and was named for Vickery, who served with the U.S. Marines as a sergeant from 1963 to 1965.

U.S. Sen. Todd Young, R-Ind., a Marine Corps veteran, visited the American Legion Post, which is housed in a separate facility, on Thursday. The walls are decorated with scenes painted by the inmates to honor those who have served in the military.

As each visitor entered Post 608, they were warmly greeted by a member of the American Legion and related what branch of the service they served with.

There were Legion members of all ages among the group.

"I'm here as a fellow veteran," Young said. "I'm grateful for your service. Thank you for what you did long ago, serve your country."

The Post 608 members are holding up the values and the tradition of the American Legion, the Indiana senator said. "You inspire others," he said. "I know fellowship is real important."

Indiana Department of Correction rules don't allow the inmates to be identified by their full names. Willie has been commander of Post 608 for 18 months. He served with the U.S. Navy.

"We're like no other post in the state," he said. "We're men of integrity in a highly anti-social environment."

Willie said since the post was formed, it has donated \$75,000 to charitable organizations.

"We're blessed to have an administration that supports our effort," he said.

Willie said on his first day behind bars, he read a motto that "everyone could start to have a better tomorrow."

He said the Legion members are a fellowship where every member holds each other accountable and looks out for one another.

"It's about integrity inside the walls and for our families," Willie said.

Gary, a veteran of the Marine Corps, said the important part of being a part of Post 608 is the fellowship with other inmates who have served in the military.

"We look out each other," he said. "There is accountability for our actions."

Gary said not all the inmates who are veterans are members of Post 608.

"We hold ourselves to a higher standard," he said. "We're trying to set a good example for the other inmates," he said.

NATION

Librarians' tasks grow beyond books

By ALI SWENSON
Associated Press

NEW YORK — When Jackie Narkiewicz switched careers and became a librarian, she thought she'd spend her workdays "drinking hot beverages and discussing literature with people."

But during her 16 years as a librarian on New York's Long Island, Narkiewicz has also faced a man threatening to kill her and a patron screaming while cutting her own hair in the bathroom. For her job, Narkiewicz has been trained in CPR and mental health crisis response and carries the opioid overdose antidote naloxone with her.

As libraries nationwide contend with a surge in patrons seeking refuge in the stacks because of poverty, drug addiction or mental illness, a growing number of institutions have social workers on staff.

It's the latest step in an evolution that libraries have been dealing with for years as homelessness and the opioid crisis reach emergency levels and patrons have come to rely on libraries as free, safe spaces open to all.

Though homelessness has seen some declines in the U.S. since the recession, it has surged in cities like Seattle, where a homelessness state of emergency was a spike in questions from library patrons about things like housing, transportation and food led the public library system to hire its first full-time social worker in 2018.

Other libraries, unable to afford such a step, have trained librarians to handle certain emergencies themselves. That's caused some debate among library workers about whether they're being asked to adapt to an evolving job or to do work that goes too far beyond their expertise.

"I can get you a phone number. I can get you a book you want ... but when you're dealing with mental health issues, I don't feel appropriately trained for it," Narkiewicz said.

A few master's degree programs for aspiring librarians have classes on mental health, but most don't. To help fill in the gaps, an estimated 40-plus library systems have full-time social workers on staff, according to Whole Person Librarianship, an organization that tracks such partnerships.

At the Queens Public Library in New York City, resident social worker Shantel Johnson oversees a team of library case managers, but she's also available to help librarians communicate with struggling patrons, connect visitors to services or just listen to people.

"They'll open up to staff, and staff is doing 14 different things," Johnson said. She says she regularly helps patrons who are homeless, experiencing abuse or having trouble applying for jobs.

The Queens Public Library also started stationing New York University social work interns in



PHOTOS BY BEBETO MATTHEWS/AP

Patrons enter Queens Central Library just as doors open to start the day on July 29, in New York. The library has a full-time social worker assisting patrons who take refuge during the day, who may need help with various crises including homelessness, unemployment, health.



Shantel Johnson, right, a full time social worker at Queens Central Library, and Michael Montero, left, social work summer intern from NYU, meet at the library's coordinating desk for adult services.

some branches last year, as does the New York Public Library, which got its first interns two years ago.

Library patron Sofia Ciniglio was meeting twice weekly with an intern at a Manhattan branch last year for career advice. But their conversations eventually involved her family, feelings and personal life. The intern introduced Ciniglio to a library where she could learn Braille, which she'd been curious about.

"She was very much a good listener, very attentive, and she knew who I was and the nuances of how I go about things," Ciniglio said.

The NYPL's librarians, meanwhile, are trained to de-escalate conflicts but aren't asked to do more in-depth mental health crisis training.

Spokeswoman Amy Geduldig notes that the library "is not a social services organization, and its staff are not medical or mental health professionals." The NYPL, the nation's busiest library system, still hasn't hired a full-time licensed social worker, though Brooklyn did in 2015 and Queens did in 2018.

In some libraries without professional social work help, employees are being asked to take on new tasks.

At the San Diego Public Library, a state library grant has funded employee training in mental health first aid since 2016. Librarian Joseph Miesner says the training helped him personally when he came across a suicidal patron.

In small-town Titusville, Pa., library director Justin Hoenke



Security guard Reginald Rudolph, left, makes his rounds at the library. Security personnel often become frontline contact between patrons and library social workers.

recently agreed with his library's board that all staffers should be trained to administer naloxone if needed.

"This is a new requirement of the job," Hoenke said. "If they're not comfortable with it, they kind of have to reevaluate their life and their job. You have to change with the times."

Fobazi Ettarh doesn't see it that way. An academic librarian at Rutgers University in Newark, she says too many expectations can distract librarians from their work, and she personally wouldn't feel comfortable as a first responder to an overdose. Research suggests other librarians

feel the same way. A 2018 survey of librarians in Pennsylvania found many reported they already felt stressed from trying to answer questions from patrons about mental health and social services, even without handling acute emergencies in the library.

Despite fraught encounters with people in crisis, Narkiewicz, who works part-time right now, still hopes to find a full-time job in the library field.

"Some days are really difficult. Some days are amazing and terrific," she says. "It's quite an eye-opening, but an amazing, wonderful career."

WORLD

Muslims skirmish with Israeli police at local holy site

By ILAN BEN ZION
Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Muslim worshippers and Israeli police clashed Sunday at a major Jerusalem holy site during prayers marking the Islamic holiday of Eid al-Adha.

Palestinian medics said at least 14 people were wounded, one seriously, in the skirmishes with police at the site, which Muslims refer to as the Al-Aqsa mosque compound and Jews refer to as the Temple Mount. Police said at least four officers were wounded. Witnesses said at least two people were arrested.

Tens of thousands of Muslims had flocked to the site in Jerusalem's Old City early Sunday for holiday prayers, police said. Jews

are also observing on Sunday the Ninth of Av, a day of fasting and mourning for the destruction of the two Biblical temples which stood at the site in antiquity.

The site is the holiest for Jews and the third holiest for Muslims, after Mecca and Medina in Saudi Arabia, and has long been a flashpoint at the epicenter of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Large numbers of Palestinians had gathered at the gates of the compound early Sunday after rumors circulated that police would allow Jewish visitors to enter the site. The protesters chanted "Al-lahu Akbar" (God is greatest) and threw stones at police, who then charged into the compound while firing stun grenades and rubber-coated bullets.

Israeli police had initially



MAHMOUD ILELAN/AP

Israeli police arrests a Palestinian worshipper at al-Aqsa mosque compound in Jerusalem, on Sunday.

barred entry to Jewish visitors but reversed their decision after the clashes broke out and allowed them to enter. Several dozen entered the site under close police escort and Muslim worshippers began throwing chairs and other objects at the group. The Jewish visitors left the compound shortly thereafter.

Jerusalem District police com-

mander Doron Yedid told Israeli media that the decision to allow Jewish visitors to enter the site was made "with the backing of the top political officials." Police spokesmen could not be reached for comment.

The reversal came after Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's religious-nationalist allies called for the site to be opened to Jewish visitors. Israelis are

headed to unprecedented repeat elections next month after Netanyahu failed to form a government following April's elections.

Jews are barred from praying at the compound under a long-standing arrangement between Israel and Muslim authorities. Jewish tradition also maintains that Jews should avoid entering the holy site.

Muslims mark final days of hajj in Saudi Arabia

By BASSAM HATOUM
AND AMR NABIL
Associated Press

MINA, Saudi Arabia — Around 2.5 million pilgrims took part in a symbolic stoning of the devil on Saturday, marking the final days of the hajj pilgrimage in Saudi Arabia and the start of the Eid al-Adha celebrations for Muslims around the world.

To mark the completion of the hajj, male pilgrims shave their hair and women trim theirs to represent a spiritual renewal and rebirth. Male pilgrims will also remove the white terrycloth garments worn on the hajj and return to their usual attire.

The five-day hajj pilgrimage is required of all Muslims once in their lifetime if they are financially and physically able to make the journey.

Muslims around the world commemorate the end of hajj with Eid celebrations, including distributing meat to the poor.

"I came from Sudan to Mecca where I performed the pilgrimage," Mohammed Saleh said as he performed the final rites of hajj in Mina. "We hope all pilgrims will be successful in their hajj."

Others too expressed a sense of gratitude to have performed the hajj.

Saudi Arabia said 1.85 million pilgrims from more than 160 different countries traveled to the kingdom for the hajj this year. Another 634,000 joined from within Saudi Arabia, nearly 70% of them non-Saudi residents of the kingdom.

The hajj is one of the largest religious gatherings on earth and a massive logistical challenge for the Saudi government to oversee



AMR NABIL/AP

A Muslim pilgrim prays on Mountain of Mercy during the annual hajj pilgrimage, near the holy city of Mecca, Saudi Arabia, on Saturday.

each year.

Saudi media reported King Salman visited Mina on Sunday to supervise the services provided during the hajj. He included among his guests for the hajj this year 200 survivors and relatives of victims of the mosque attacks in New Zealand, where a gunman opened fire and killed 51 people in March.

Syrian troops capture critical village in Idlib

Associated Press

BEIRUT — Syrian government forces captured an important village in the northwestern province of Idlib on Sunday, drawing close to a major town in the last rebel stronghold in the country, state media and opposition activists said.

The capture of Habelt opens up an approach to southern regions of Idlib, which is home to some 3 million people, many of them displaced by fighting in other parts of the country. Habelt is also close to the town of Khan Sheikhoun, which has been held by rebels since 2012, and to parts of the highway linking the capital, Damascus, with the northern city of Aleppo, Syria's largest.

Syrian troops have been trying to secure the M5 highway, which has been closed since 2012.

Idlib is a stronghold for al-Qaida-linked militants and other armed groups.

Syrian troops have been attacking Idlib and a stretch of land around it since April 30. The three-month campaign of airstrikes and shelling has killed more than 2,000 people on both sides and displaced some 400,000.

The government-controlled Syrian Central Military Media said the Syrian army captured the village after fierce fighting with al-Qaida-linked militants.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, an opposition-linked war monitor, described the capture of Habelt as "the most important advance" by government forces since April 30. It said the overnight fighting left 18 insurgents and nine pro-government gunmen dead.



KIN CHEUNG/AP

Protesters and residents take part in the anti-extradition bill protest march at Shum Shui Po in Hong Kong, on Sunday.

Tear gas fired during Hong Kong protests

By ALICE FUNG
AND YANAN WANG
Associated Press

HONG KONG — Police fired tear gas late Sunday afternoon to try to disperse a demonstration in Hong Kong as protesters took over streets in two parts of the Asian financial capital, blocking traffic and setting up another night of likely showdowns with riot police.

Protesters hurled bricks at of-

ficers and ignored warnings to leave the Sham Shui Po area before tear gas was deployed, police said, calling the march an "unauthorized assembly." Nearby, protesters wearing gas masks gathered outside a police station in Cheung Sha Wan, as officers wearing their protective gear looked down at them from a tall wall around the station.

Across Victoria Harbour, a large group of mostly young protesters marched down the middle

of Hennessey Road, a main shopping drag in the Causeway Bay area, as a rally was held in nearby Victoria Park. Many wore face masks to shield their identities, and a few had helmets. Others just carried backpacks over the black T-shirts that have become their uniform.

"We hope the world knows that Hong Kong is not the Hong Kong it used to be," said one protester, Louisa Ho.

WORLD

Huge rally against Romanian leaders occurs in capital

Associated Press

BUCHAREST, Romania — Thousands of people took part in anti-government protests in Romania, with the largest rally taking place outside government headquarters in Bucharest.

The events on Saturday were held on the anniversary of anti-corruption protests in which

hundreds of people were injured, including two dozen police officers.

Some demonstrators carried signs with slogans like "Corruption kills" while demanding the resignation of Prime Minister Viorica Dancila's government.

Bucharest resident Mihai Munteanu said: "We want this



ANDREEA ALEXANDRU/AP

A woman with the Romanian flag colors and the word "resist" painted on her face takes part in an anti-government protest in Victoria Square, outside the government headquarters in Bucharest.

government full of incompetents, corrupt people and thieves to go away because we cannot go on like this anymore."

Dancila has been prime minister since January 2018. The lead-

er of the ruling Social Democratic Party, she is set to run against incumbent President Klaus Iohannis in a November presidential election.

Norway looks for terror ties in mosque shooting

Norwegian police say a shooting at the Al-Noor Islamic center in Baerum, on the outskirts of Oslo, is being investigated as attempted terrorism.

One person sustained light injuries in Saturday's incident before the armed attacker was overpowered by people attending the mosque. The suspect, a Norwegian local resident, was taken into custody on suspicion of attempted murder. Police are also investigating the death of a young woman related to the suspect as possible murder.

According to various media reports, the suspect's online postings had referenced other acts of violence, including shootings at mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand, and the El Paso, Texas, attack.

Saudi-led coalition says separatists pulled back

SANAA, Yemen — The Saudi-led coalition fighting in Yemen says southern separatists have begun withdrawing from positions they seized from the government in the southern port city of Aden.

The Southern Transitional Council, backed by the United Arab Emirates, had wrested control of Aden on Saturday from forces loyal to the internationally backed government after four days of fighting. The fighting exposed a major rift in the coalition, which has been at war with Iran-aligned rebels since 2015.

Saudi state TV reported Sunday that the separatists had heeded calls for an immediate cease-fire and begun withdrawing from all positions seized in recent days.

Typhoon leaves at least 28 dead in China

BEIJING — A powerful typhoon left at least 28 people dead in southeastern China, including more than 20 who perished after a landslide backed up a river that then inundated homes, state media reported Sunday.

Another 20 people remained unaccounted for in Zhejiang province, the official Xinhua News Agency said. After the landslide, the river rose to 30 feet within 10 minutes, trapping 120 people in Yongjia county, Xinhua said. Twenty-two people died and 10 were missing in the area, which lies on the outskirts of Wenzhou, a major port city. Six others died elsewhere in Zhejiang province.

India eases restrictions in Kashmir for festival

NEW DELHI — Authorities in Indian-administered Kashmir said they eased restrictions Sunday in most parts of Srinagar, the main city, ahead of an Islamic festival following India's decision to strip the region of its constitutional autonomy.

Magistrate Shahid Choudhary in a tweet said more than 250 ATMs have been made functional and bank branches opened for people to withdraw money ahead of Monday's Eid al-Adha festival.

From wire reports

Polish city of Plock holds first pride parade

Associated Press



CZAREK SOKOLOWSKI/AP

LGBT activists and their supporters gather for the first-ever pride parade in the central city of Plock, Poland, on Saturday.

PLOCK, Poland — LGBT activists held a central Polish city's first pride parade with only minor incidents on Saturday amid a deep divide in the country over gay and lesbian rights.

The parade in Plock, about 60 miles west of Warsaw, came three weeks after anti-gay violence marred the first pride march in the eastern city of Bialystok. Far-right radicals attacked march participants with rocks, glass bottles and firecrackers on July 20, causing injuries and riot police to intervene.

In Plock on Saturday, about 2,500 parade participants, many carrying rainbow flags, walked through the city. They were surrounded by a large number of police officers, a sign authorities were determined to prevent a repetition of last month's violence.

The police tried to separate parade marchers and protesters,

who held signs including "Enough of LGBT propaganda sponsored from abroad." Some minor skirmishes occurred, and police said officers detained two people.

The pride events took place amid a backlash against an LGBT movement that is growing more visible in the predominantly Catholic country.

Poland's right-wing ruling party has focused on LGBT issues ahead of an October general election, depicting gay men and lesbians as threats to Polish society and families.

The powerful Catholic Church has also described gay people as a threat, with a top church official recently denouncing what he called a "rainbow plague."

Members of Hungary's ruling party also have recently expressed opposition to LGBT rights, voicing anger at Coca-Cola advertisements that featured gay couples.

Election protest in Moscow attracts tens of thousands

By JIM HEINTZ

Associated Press

MOSCOW — Tens of thousands of people rallied Saturday against the exclusion of some city council candidates from Moscow's upcoming election, turning out for one of the Russian capital's biggest political protests in years.

After the rally, which was officially sanctioned, hundreds of participants streamed to an area near the presidential administration building to continue with an unauthorized demonstration. They were confronted by phalanxes of riot police, and the arrest-monitoring group OVD-Info said 136 people were detained.

The rally was the fourth consecutive weekend demonstration in Moscow over the local election. The determined opposition has

prompted protests in other cities, reflecting widespread frustration with Russia's tightly controlled politics.

The protest attracted some 50,000 people, said Bely Schetchik, an organization that counts public meeting attendance.

OVD-Info said 86 people were arrested Saturday in St. Petersburg at an unsanctioned demonstration in support of the Moscow protests.

Unlike the previous two Moscow rallies, where police harshly dispersed the crowds and detained thousands of demonstrators, Saturday's gathering in a neighborhood with relatively few passersby was officially sanctioned.

It was held on a street flanked by high buildings and sandwiched



ALEXANDER ZEMLIANICHENKO/AP

People with national flags and various political party flags gather during a protest in Moscow on Saturday.

between two busy thoroughfares.

Lyubov Sobol, one of the city council candidates denied a place on the ballot and a spearhead of the election protest, was among those detained in Moscow on Saturday.

A video on Sobol's Twitter feed showed officers breaking into her office as she demanded an explanation from them.

Small related protests also were reported in several Siberian cities on Saturday.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Boy, 8, gets city to post 'Turtle Xing' signs

IN WEST LAFAYETTE — The city has installed "Turtle Xing" signs along a road after an 8-year-old boy warned the mayor that motorists were running over turtles on the move.

Jack Wietbrock wrote West Lafayette Mayor John Dennis a letter last month asking him to install a sign advising motorists to keep watch for turtles along Cherry Lane.

The second-grader wrote that "there are turtles crossing the road and they need our help." He included a hand-drawing of a car stopped and someone carrying a turtle, captioning that image with, "We saved a baby turtle."

City ends 101-year-old farming tradition

SC YORK — A 101-year-old farming and fellowship tradition won't continue this year and may be over for good.

The Herald of Rock Hill reported the annual Hopewell Day where people in western York County gather to eat beef hash and listen to gospel music and political speeches won't take place in 2019.

Hopewell Day was celebrated the third Wednesday in August after many farmers finished their harvests. But organizer Melvin Howell said attendance is dwindling and they don't have enough volunteers because of school starting back.

State fair will have ice skating rink

MS JACKSON — Ice skating will be available this year at the Mississippi State Fair.

State Agriculture Commissioner Andy Gipson said a temporary ice rink will be installed inside the Mississippi Coliseum on the fairgrounds in Jackson. Gipson announced Friday that a Florida-based company called Magic Ice USA will build and manage the 8,000-square-foot rink.

Stolen vehicles used to steal bank's ATM

LA WESTLAKE — Authorities are looking for people who used a stolen forklift, truck and trailer to steal an ATM. The Calcasieu Parish Sheriff's Office said three people have been involved. Surveillance photos were posted on the sheriff's website on Friday, and deputies asked anyone who recognizes the people to call police.

The ATM was stolen about 1 a.m. last Saturday from a bank in Westlake, and a trailer and truck stolen from different businesses were left in the bank's parking lot.

Later Saturday, a burning truck was reported in Sulphur. It turned out to be the truck stolen with the trailer. The ATM was found along with it. It also had been damaged. The sheriff's office did not say whether money was in the machine.



DEVON RAVINE, NORTHWEST FLORIDA DAILY NEWS/AP

Helping hand

Chris Page and his service dog, Tank, enjoy a dip in the Gulf of Mexico near Fort Walton Beach, Fla. Page has dealt with anxiety and other issues through the years and Tank has been there to help comfort him. The 7-year-old German shepherd was recently diagnosed with degenerative myelopathy, a progressive and fatal paralytic disease. Page is determined to improve his friend's life quality of life through regular medication and physical rehabilitation.

Firefighter rescues child locked in hot car

NY NEW YORK — Authorities said a firefighter rescued a crying child locked in a car on a hot summer day in New York City.

The 5-year-old boy was safe Friday, after the city firefighter smashed a car window to get him out.

On Thursday afternoon, Firefighter Matthew Clinton found the boy at a shopping center in Queens, in a car seat, sweating and crying that it was hot inside.

His father, Geremie Ram, faces charges including endangering the welfare of a child. He was released on his own recognizance pending a court date on Sept. 19.

Bear falls on patrol car that was on highway

CA HOOPA — They probably don't train people for this at the Sheriff's Academy.

A patrol car was struck by a falling bear in Northern California.

Authorities said a Humboldt County sheriff's deputy was driving on State Route 96 on Aug. 3, answering a report of a drug overdose in the community of Orleans, when the bear fell or jumped onto the car, apparently from a steep embankment.

The bear smashed the hood and windshield. The patrol car hit an embankment, rolled onto its side and burst into flames. The bear fled the scene.

THE CENSUS

\$725K

The amount the first black woman to serve as American University's student government president won in a lawsuit against a neo-Nazi website operator who orchestrated an online harassment campaign against her. The A federal judge granted default judgment Friday to Taylor Dumpson and awarded her more than \$725,000 after The Daily Stormer founder Andrew Anglin and a follower failed to respond to her lawsuit.

Homeowner reports gun stolen during sex party

FL DELTONA — A Florida homeowner said someone stole a 9 mm Glock handgun from his bedroom during a weekend sex party.

But Volusia County Sheriff's Sgt. Todd Smith told The Daytona Beach News-Journal the homeowner couldn't give detectives the names of possible suspects because the 20 or so people attending the orgy wore masks.

Smith said the handgun was apparently on a bedroom nightstand during the party. It was taken between July 19 and July 21 and reported later.

The homeowner said the party was advertised on social media and guests were encouraged to bring friends and to use fictitious names or no name at all.

He said he probably only knew about five of the guests that entered the home that weekend.

So far in 2019, a total of 81 firearms have been stolen out of 72 unlocked vehicles throughout Volusia, Sheriff Mike Chitwood said.

The amount the first black woman to serve as American University's student government president won in a lawsuit against a neo-Nazi website operator who orchestrated an online harassment campaign against her.

Orphaned fawn gets home in wildlife park

AZ PHOENIX — A deer fawn whose mother was hit by a car in Safford has found a home in a wildlife park.

Arizona Game and Fish Department officials said Friday the 3-week-old fawn has been placed at the 160-acre Bearizona Wildlife Park in Williams.

According to the agency, the white-tailed fawn became dependent on people and couldn't be released back into the wild.

Police: Headstones toppled at cemetery

MI SOUTH LYON — Police said vandalism is blamed for the toppling of 15-20 headstones at a suburban Detroit cemetery.

WDIV-TV reported police in South Lyon got a call about the vandalism at South Lyon Cemetery. Police are looking for the person or people responsible for the vandalism.

'The Watcher' house sells for a discount

NJ WESTFIELD — A New Jersey house whose current owners were scared off the property by a creepy letter writer known as "The Watcher" has sold for \$400,000 less than the owners paid.

Derek and Maria Broadus bought the Westfield home for \$1,355,657 in 2014, but they didn't move in after receiving the first of four letters from the anonymous stalker.

NJ.com reported Andrew and Allison Carr purchased it for \$959,360. It was originally listed for \$1.25 million in 2016.

Judge: Iguana thrower not allowed to brag

OH PAINESVILLE — An Ohio judge has told a man who threw an iguana at a restaurant manager that he's not allowed to brag about the crime.

Arnold Teeter, 49, pleaded guilty Thursday to cruelty to animals and resisting arrest.

Painesville Municipal Judge Michael Cicconetti sentenced Teeter to two years of probation. The conditions also include that Teeter cannot live in a home with animals for five years.

In April, authorities said Teeter pulled the 2-foot-long iguana from under his sweatshirt, swung it around by its tail and threw it at a Perkins Restaurant manager but missed.

From wire reports

FACES

A real buddy story

Indie film 'Peanut Butter Falcon' makes dream come true for actor with Down syndrome, helps turn actor Shia LaBeouf's life around

By JAKE COYLE
Associated Press

Shia LaBeouf is trying to show how different he is from his co-star in "The Peanut Butter Falcon," Zack Gottsagen.

"Hey, Zack," says LaBeouf. "Are you a good opera singer?"

"Yes!" replies Gottsagen with a smile.

"Hey, Zack. Are you good scuba diver?"

"Yes!" responds Gottsagen, just as quickly, just as brightly.

LaBeouf shakes his head in awe. Like the 33-year-old LaBeouf, Gottsagen is an actor. He's one year LaBeouf's senior and he has Down syndrome. Truth be told, he can't sing a lick of opera and isn't much for scuba diving. But that's never stopped Gottsagen.

"No matter what you ask him, he's good at it. He was raised a special, magical kid since he was young. There's no self-doubt in him," says LaBeouf. "You ask me if I'm a good actor and I'll tell you I'm s---."

Six years ago, Gottsagen met Tyler Nilson and Michael Schwartz at an acting workshop for disabled people at a camp in Santa Monica, Calif. They immediately noticed Gottsagen who, while playing the bad guy in a Western, would with an air of danger take off his glasses and put down his drink before saying his line.

Gottsagen, who works as an usher at a movie theater in Florida, told them he wanted to be a movie star.

"We had to have a really frank conversation about how there aren't many opportunities for people with Down syndrome to act in movies that go into theaters. He kind of got really emotional and he just said, 'Well, let's do it together then!'" recalls Schwartz. "It was his idea. It was a great idea."

Schwartz and Nilson had only toiled on the peripheries of Hollywood, working on commercials and short films. But, inspired by Gottsagen's determination, they checked out some books from the library about how to write a screenplay.

They put together a script about a wrestling-obsessed young man with Down syndrome who breaks out of his assisted living home and embarks on a "Huck Finn"-like adventure across North Carolina's Outer Banks, joining up with a destitute crab fisherman running from his debtors (LaBeouf).

It took extreme effort to make it a reality. Nilson and Schwartz went broke and became homeless in the process. For a spell, Nilson lived in a tent without much food. "For better or worse, we went a little bit crazy getting that promise we made to Zack to happen," says Nilson.

But with Gottsagen

starring, the filmmakers scraped together some money and began attracting an enviable cast drawn to the project's good heartedness. The film co-stars Dakota Johnson, John Hawkes, Bruce Dern and Thomas Haden Church. After it premiered at SXSW this year, "The Peanut Butter Falcon," which opened in theaters stateside Friday, won the audience award. Reviews have been excellent. Gottsagen's dream has come true.

"I hope some people could have the opportunity to go for their dreams," Gottsagen said in a recent interview alongside LaBeouf. "Follow your heart and maybe someday you can be a movie star."

What's striking about Gottsagen is how he's taken his good fortune in such stride. Having loved movies (he counts "Grease" as his favorite) and studied acting since has a kid, Gottsagen is remarkably comfortable in the spotlight. He has even taught acting to others with Down syndrome. He worked for his big break. He earned it.

Instead, it's those around Gottsagen whose lives have changed, particularly LaBeouf's. The two quickly became close, spending their evenings watching wrestling and their days on 12-hour shoots across the Georgia countryside, swimming in rivers, dancing on railroad tracks and having watermelon fights. Like their characters, there was nothing "cheeseball," just honesty and

tenderness and equality between them.

"I was quite unintelligible to myself before I met him. He had more self-awareness coming into this picture than I do, which is saying a lot," says LaBeouf. "Walking out, I've adopted a lot of his self-love and his confidence. It's leading to self-love, which is leading to an ability to receive love, which is what was lacking in my life. And I would run to alcohol. I just hated myself. Just a big self-hater."

In the middle of production in 2017, LaBeouf was arrested for public drunkenness. LaBeouf has since gotten sober, and he credits Gottsagen with his turnaround.

"He knows about my pain intimately. We'd be sitting there watching wrestling every night. He'd be eating ice cream. I'd be drinking gin. I'd tell him, 'You gotta stop eating all that ice cream.' He'd say, 'You gotta stop drinking that gin,'" says LaBeouf. "This man's a year older than me. He's been acting longer than me and he's healthier than I am. He has more friends than I have, has longer lasting loving relationships."

At that, LaBeouf begins to tear up. Gottsagen leans his head against his co-star and wraps his arm around him. They tell each "I love you."

"I was doing things for Shia because I just don't like to see old Shia act like this. I wanted to see the new Shia that I know," says Gottsagen. "I have respect for other stars in films and I want Shia to be nice with them, except for those stars who don't care about Shia."

That would be their loss. I don't care about what they do, but I care about Shia a lot more. Shia can do anything."

Gottsagen turns to LaBeouf and says, "I do mean it." "I know you do," LaBeouf replies. "You mean everything that you say."



Vanessa Carlton

Vanessa Carlton backs into role on Broadway as Carole King

By MARK KENNEDY
Associated Press

Over the years, the Broadway show about singer-songwriter Carole King has starred powerful singers in the title role. But until now it hasn't had one thing — a singer-songwriter.

Vanessa Carlton has bravely stepped into the role of the legendary King without much musical theater experience but lots from being a young female songwriter trying to discover her own voice.

Carlton, who has had ups and downs since her breakout 2002 single, "A Thousand Miles," read the script for "Beautiful: The Carole King Musical" and cried. Then she thought of her own life.

"I thought, 'OK there's something here that I think I can bring myself. I can bring some of my own essence to this and maybe it will make it better somehow or different or feel different or bring some kind of unique energy to it that will be cool.'"

"Beautiful" is based on King's life from when she was a teenage songwriter in New York to her time as a wife, mother and co-author of scores of recognizable songs, including "Will You Love Me Tomorrow" and "You Make Me Feel Like A Natural Woman."

Though King and Carlton created music in different eras, the younger singer-songwriter easily recognized similar experiences: the stress of auditioning a song, being a young woman in the music industry, the need to manage men's feelings, the frustrations and joys of the creative process, and being a working mom.

"It's the story of someone taking great risk," Carlton said. "I really wanted to help honor the arc of the story. But I do have a lot of personal experiences that I am channeling in a lot of the scenes."

Carlton is still somewhat shocked to be making her Broadway debut. She may have attended many shows growing up in New York, but she studied ballet and piano, not musical theater.

"It was emotional for me to get through the show the first time," she said. "It's a lot of work. And it was so exhilarating. And it just kind of worked out. I just cried at the end. I did it! Now I have to do it 79 more times. How is this going to happen?"

"The Peanut Butter Falcon" costars Shia LaBeouf, left, and Zack Gottsagen, shown Aug. 2, have remained friends since filming the movie, now in theaters stateside.

CHRIS PIZZELLO, INVERSON/AP



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OPINION

Games don't kill, but hate fuels gamer culture

By BRIANNA WU

Special to The Washington Post

I was 22 when politicians started blaming video games for mass shootings. In 1999, I was running my first tech start-up and learning the Unreal Engine, the tool that would define my career as a game developer, when news of the mass shooting at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo., ground all work to a standstill. We gathered around our tiny television. Network news helicopters hovered over the school, and we watched from a bird's-eye view as students fled to safety, police charged the building and bodies were carried out.

In the aftermath, many pointed to the video games the killers played, Doom and Quake. A segment on CBS's "60 Minutes" asked, "Are Video Games Turning Kids Into Killers?" "What kind of values are we promoting when a child can walk into a store and find video games where you win based on how many people you can kill or how many places you can blow up?" asked then-first lady Hillary Clinton. Then-Sen. Jeff Sessions took to the floor of the Senate to warn that such games "cause people to be killed."

Twenty years later, Columbine doesn't even rank among the 10 worst mass shootings, and yet, after two mass shootings in one weekend this month in El Paso, Texas, and Dayton, Ohio, politicians reached for the old scapegoat. President Donald Trump declared "the gruesome and grisly video games that are now commonplace." Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden agreed that games were at least partially to blame: "It is not healthy to have these games teaching kids the dispassionate notion that you can shoot somebody and just be 'on their brains out.'"

One small problem with that: We've been studying this issue for more than 20 years, and there have been no scientific findings showing that violent video games cause people to commit violent acts. A 2015 meta-analysis of 107 separate studies, conducted by the American Psychological Association, found no statistically significant relationship between these games and criminal violence or delinquency.

But deeper in the report, another finding points to a real and urgent problem: toxic gaming culture. The APA noted that research showed a connection between violent video games and increased aggression, as well as "decreased prosocial behavior, empathy and sensitivity to aggression." Anyone who has spent any time playing online shooters, and has gotten bombarded by venomous taunts over voice chat, knows this to be true. The issue isn't that games themselves induce violence — we know they don't — but that the gamer community has provided a place for some furious, hateful individuals and encouraged their worst tendencies. Though the gaming world is huge and diverse, and full of smart and wonderful players, it is also thronged by misogynists and racists who feel free to advocate harm against anyone who's providing a place for their rage, whether on Discord, Reddit or YouTube.

Why are so many gamers angry and isolated? I often ask myself this question, because game developers are generally friendly and social people, as are the journalists who cover us. Yet our industry's corrosive ideas about manhood and power bleed into too many of the products we ship. We've told one kind of player that they are the center of the universe, and we've catered to their every whim for 30 years. Consider the default video game protagonist: white, male and with a gun in hand as the solution to every problem. Meanwhile, in games from "Smash TV" to "Super Mario," the default female character functions as a reward at the end of the



Activision

Soldiers engage enemies in Call of Duty: Modern Warfare, a first-person shooter game that will be released this fall.

adventure. Now that players are becoming more diverse, these tropes feel dated. But rather than change with the times, some revanchist players feel like their culture is being stolen — a sense of aggrieved resentment that will seem familiar to anyone who's watched a Trump rally.

You can see all of this in our virtual worlds. In the Western action game Red Dead Online, for example, black players have reported being called the n-word by other gamers, their virtual avatars being hanged from cliffs in mock lynchings. One player has even built a YouTube following by recording taboo scenarios that he claims viewers want him to "test," like whether it's possible to feed a feminist character to an alligator. (It is.)

That ugliness can also be found at our major professional conferences. At a recent Electronic Entertainment Expo, one keynote featured an onstage rape joke: While demoting the game Killer Instinct, a male player beat up a female player, while saying, "Just let it happen. It will be over soon," and, "Wow, you like those," while she replied, "No, I don't like this."

From the earliest days of multiplayer online gaming, the industry's biggest companies have made it a policy to ignore troubling behavior on their platforms. For example, in 2007, a gay player of Halo 3 changed his username to "xxx GayBoy xxx" on Xbox Live and received an onslaught of slurs and violent threats. After his recording of this experience went viral, Microsoft ramped up enforcement of the rules of conduct on its nascent multiplayer service. In response to reports of harassment, moderators would review clips of the gameplay and permanently ban the offenders. By 2013, though, fearing that these policies were limiting games' consumer appeal, Microsoft drastically cut back on moderation, automating much of the oversight and moving to a far more lenient "reputation" system in which "trash-talking" players were grouped together in matches.

Today, from comment sections to tournament play, basement-level standards of behavior have become the norm. Many gamers believe that any standards of decency constitute censorship. That culture, in which "jokes" about or straight-up advocacy of hatred became free-speech virtues, gave rise to Gamergate, an organized effort in 2014 to force women, including me, to leave the game industry by threatening them with rape and murder. What seemed then like a bizarre but one-off sub-

culture war has had lasting repercussions. Steve Bannon, for instance, soon targeted gamers as a natural new audience for alt-right thought: "You can activate that army. They come in through Gamergate or whatever and then get turned onto politics and Trump."

And as its participants sought out a forum where they could express their most vile ideas, Gamergate brought a whole new community to the message board 8chan. While presenting itself as a bastion of free speech, 8chan has facilitated serious crimes, including hosting child pornography and spreading cyberweapons for denial-of-service attacks. It was also where white-supremacist manifestos were posted before the shootings in Christchurch, New Zealand, and Poway, Calif., and where users rooted for the New Zealand body count to soar, calling it a new "high score." Now, El Paso appears to be the third mass shooting announced on the site this year. For years, people lobbied 8chan's online security provider, Cloudflare, to stop working with the extremist site. Only after the El Paso and Dayton killings did it finally relent.

I say this as an engineer: We are profoundly bad at asking ourselves how the things we build could be misused. Facebook, Twitter and Reddit have all had to scramble after the fact to address harassment on their platforms. Meanwhile, on YouTube, hate speech has performed terrifyingly well in an algorithm that places user engagement above all other factors. As a result, the platform has increasingly been linked to the radicalization of young people, who spend shocking amounts of time on the site.

I love video games dearly. Growing up as a queer child in Mississippi, I got my Nintendo in 1985, and I've been lost in this world ever since. When I was scared because my church said people like me were going to burn in hell, Final Fantasy, Dragon Warrior and Super Mario offered a lifeline.

But somewhere along the way, the culture of video games became deeply broken, reflecting the broader fractures in our country. It's a culture that presents cynicism as wisdom, and apathy as a virtue, and the self-righteous mob as the best way to get justice. Video games do not create mass killers, but they invite people with terrible ideas, including white supremacy, to congregate. If we want to save the world, combating this is where we press start.

Brianna Wu is a Democratic candidate for Congress in Massachusetts's 8th District and a software engineer.

BUSINESS/WEATHER

Mine closure strains small town economy

By NICHOLAS K. GERANIOS
Associated Press

METALINE FALLS, Wash. — Times are tough in a rural county in northeast Washington state because one of the region's biggest employers is shutting down.

The Pend Oreille Mine, just north of Metaline Falls, closed on July 31, at a cost of about 200 family-wage jobs in an area of fewer than 1,000 residents.

It's another sign of the imbalance of prosperity in Washington state. While the Seattle area gorges on high-paying jobs, many rural counties like Pend Oreille County that depend on natural resource industries — logging, fishing, mining — are suffering.

This divide is part of a national trend. People in urban areas had higher per-capita income, lower poverty rates, lower unemployment rates and higher education levels than people in rural areas in recent years, according to data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Rural areas are also suffering a declining population, while urban areas grow, the USDA said.

Pend Oreille County Commissioner Steve Kiss said the loss of about 200 jobs at the lead and zinc mine hurts. About 40 employees will remain for long-term maintenance.

"The mine was the last operating natural resource-based industry in the northern part of the county, with the exception of two hydroelectric facilities," Kiss said. "In the past, we have lost other mines, sawmills, a cement plant and the railroad that served all these industries."

Small businesses struggle to survive in the area in the best of times, Kiss said. "Our two grocery



DAN PELLE, THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW/AP

The Pend Oreille Mine in Metaline Falls, Wash., in 2009. The lead and zinc mine closed July 31, at a cost of about 200 jobs in the rural county in northeast Washington.

'We've got to look for different ways to bring the economy back.'

Bill Bisson
Metaline city
councilman

Oreille (Pahn-duh-ray) County is bordered on the north by Canada and to the east by Idaho. The Selkirk Mountains create a dramatic landscape, blanketed by national forests and a wilderness area.

The human footprint here is light.

Pend Oreille County has just 13,500 residents, and its unemployment rate of 7.2% was already more than two full points higher than the statewide average of

stores, a few restaurants and bars and two gas stations/convenience stores will definitely see a reduction in sales," he said, while local governments will see less tax revenue.

Pend Oreille County has just 13,500 residents, and its unemployment rate of 7.2% was already more than two full points higher than the statewide average of

4.6% in June.

The owners of the Pend Oreille Mine said the closure was prompted by slumping demand for zinc and the prohibitive cost of exploring for new deposits. The Galena and Lucky Friday mines in nearby northern Idaho are the only active large mining operations left in the Inland Northwest, a region that was originally built by a robust mining industry.

Metaline Falls, a town of fewer than 300 people, was quiet on a recent Wednesday morning. The tidy downtown contained a restaurant, grocery store, movie theater and numerous closed-up stores.

"This is a mining town," said Arlie Ward, a resident since 1996. He owns the historic Washington Hotel downtown, which caters to the tourists who increasingly come to the outdoor playground. "It's a bite for sure. Half the people around here worked there."

Not all the economic news from the county is bad.

In April, the Kalispel Tribe of Indians opened a new casino near Cusick that is part of a \$10 million project that includes an RV park, storage facility, gas station and grocery store. In total, they will create about 80 new jobs.

The formerly impoverished tribe operates a large off-reservation casino in a suburb of Spokane that has been very successful. Now it is pouring money closer to its reservation.

"We are focusing on economic development," tribal council member Curt Holmes said.

Bill Bisson, a city councilman in the nearby town of Metaline, said local leaders are working hard to expand the tourism base.

"We've got to look for different ways to bring the economy back," Bisson said.

The mine closure is survivable, he added. "All the people are hardy people. They'll continue to move forward," Bisson said.

The prognosis for the mine site is grim, however.

A 2013 study by community leaders looked at what could be done with the 263 acres of surface mine property and 20 industrial buildings. The study found little chance of gaining another large employer.

The mine previously temporarily closed in 2008, but it reopened five years later when zinc prices increased.

Metaline Falls Mayor Tara Leininger, 62, doesn't expect a similar situation. "We're looking at losing people," Leininger said.

Mining companies from across the nation have been recruiting the employees of the Pend Oreille Mine because underground hard

rock mining is a specialized skill.

The mine closure isn't the only factor in the shrinking population.

Leininger said some people with health problems have left to be closer to hospitals. The local clinic just lost its only doctor.

Kiss, the county commissioner, has lived for nearly 60 years in Pend Oreille County.

"I fully understand the resiliency of the people who live here," Kiss added. "We will survive."

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (Aug. 12)	\$1.1486
Dollar buys (Aug. 12)	69.8796
British pound (Aug. 12)	\$1.24
Japanese yen (Aug. 12)	103.00
South Korean won (Aug. 12)	1,179.00
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3771
British pound	\$1.2056
Canada (Dollar)	1.3208
China (Yuan)	7.0626
Denmark (Krone)	6.6597
Egypt (Pound)	16.5493
Euro	\$1.1207/0.8923
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.8422
Hungary (Forint)	289.56
Israel (Shekel)	3.4780
Japan (Yen)	105.57
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.3039
Norway (Krone)	8.8719
Philippines (Peso)	52.03
Poland (Zloty)	3.86
Saudi (Riyal)	3.7510
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3843
South Korea (Won)	1,214.91
Taiwan (New Taiwan Dollar)	0.9723
Thailand (Baht)	30.78
Turkey (Lira)	5.4987
Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance, for nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)	

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	5.25
Discount rate	2.75
Federal Reserve market rate	1.95
3-month bill	1.95
30-year bond	2.25

WEATHER OUTLOOK



The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

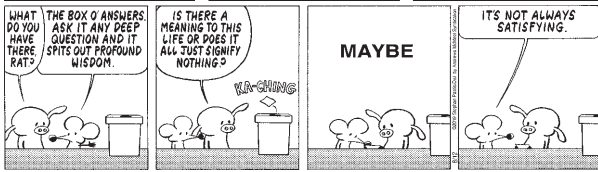
Frazz



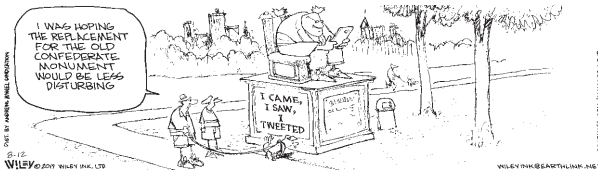
Dilbert



Pearls Before Swine



Non Sequitur



Candorville



Carpe Diem



Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



Eugene Sheffer Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12					13			14		
15					16			17		
18					19			20		
			21			22				
24	25	26				27		28		30
31						32		33		34
35						37			38	
			39		40		41			
42	43				44		45		46	47
49							50		51	
52							53		54	
55							56		57	

ACROSS

- 1 Actress Elisabeth
- 5 Witticism
- 8 Swizzle
- 12 Artist Chagall
- 13 — de-France
- 14 Meditative practice
- 15 Exam format
- 16 Neighboring
- 18 Trattoria desserts
- 20 Arctic plain
- 21 Pet food brand
- 23 — Aviv
- 24 "Welcome" sites
- 28 "Amen!"
- 31 Hooding bird
- 32 Respect, slangily
- 34 Praise in verse
- 35 "Star Wars" princess
- 37 Magician's exit
- 39 Pre-DVD format
- 41 Canal of song
- 42 Defeat easily
- 45 Words with dough
- 49 Entrance ringer
- 51 "Phooey!"
- 52 Adams and Irving
- 53 Nay undoer
- 54 Jazzy Fitzgerald
- 55 Harvard rival
- 56 Guitar master
- 57 "Act now!"

DOWN

- 1 Urban haze
- 2 Aesopian also-ran
- 3 Russian river
- 4 Cream-filled pastry
- 5 Gas station store, often
- 6 Flamenco cry
- 7 Libretto
- 8 Capital of New South Wales
- 9 "Ta-tal!"
- 10 Composer Stravinsky
- 11 — avis
- 17 Boy king
- 19 Pack (down)
- 22 Emporium
- 24 100 cts.
- 25 Have bills
- 26 Popeye's lady
- 27 Glitters
- 29 Commotion
- 30 That girl
- 33 Whirl
- 36 "My kingdom for —"
- 38 Signed over
- 40 Second-stringer
- 42 Forever and —
- 43 Prolonged sleep
- 44 Blue shade
- 46 "The Good Dinosaur" hero
- 47 Surrealist Salvador
- 48 Doc's "Now!"
- 50 Caustic solution

Answer to Previous Puzzle

O	R	A	N	G	I	C	E	A	P
Y	O	U	T	O	S	H	E	A	V
O	N	E	T	W	M	A	R	N	E
S	A	R	I	D	E	E	R	D	R
B	B	S	F	E	E	S	E	B	A
R	O	C	K	F	E	S	T	I	V
O	P	I	E	D	O	E	S	R	E
A	B	S	P	E	E	N	E	S	S
L	E	O	N	I	D	W	A	S	H
M	A	R	I	N	E	A	S	T	U
A	U	S	T	E	N	Y	E	S	E

8-12

CRYPTOQUIP

CMBGJT JP C SJMXVHUO
BCDSO MOLF DTJCEBCFV LGJ
UJJMSHXGVF CF C IJSHBO

JPPHBT: CMEOTFJM BJIHOT.
Saturday's Cryptoquip: POP AND SOUL
SUPERSTAR WHO ADORES FISH SUCH AS
BLUEFIN, YELLOWFIN AND ALBACORE: TUNA
TURNER.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: B equals C


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- Free ads are available only DOD ID Card holders selling personal merchandise.
- Ads may contain up to 32 words. All Ads must contain price and contact information. No websites will be accepted in Free ads.
- Stars and Stripes reserves the right to re-classify, rewrite and reject any ads.

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Classifieds EUROPE

For information on Commercial Rates: CIV: 0631-3615-9012 or DSN: 583-9012

Announcements 040

SCAM FADS

Classifieds scams can target both sellers and buyers with classified advertisements.

Be aware of the common red flags.

Some of the latest Scam fads are:

- Vehicle buyers wanting to buy right unseen and have the vehicle shipped through an agent using paypal.
- People saying Free Dog (different breeds) for adoption.

Automotive 140

SELLER BEWARE

Individuals placing classified advertising should use discretion in concluding the sale of their property. Not all potential buyers are reputable or honest. Stars and Stripes suggests that you take precautions to ensure that potential buyers are reputable and will be able to fulfill the terms of the sale. Stars and Stripes is not liable for the contractual relationship between sellers and buyers of merchandise advertised in the newspaper or on the web site.

Autos for Sale - Germany 142

Auto - Quality Pre-owned
US SPEC Vehicles
www.usandmililitaryautosales.com
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SCOREBOARD

Sports On Air

Go to the American Forces Network website for the most up-to-date TV schedules.
myafn.net

Deals

Saturday's transactions

BASEBALL
Atlanta Braves — Signed SS Luis Valenzuela to a minor league contract. Options RHP Josh Liddle to Charlotte (L).
DETROIT TIGERS — Options LHP Blake Rinehart to Toledo (L).
KANSAS CITY ROYALS — Options RHP Tyler Zimmer to Omaha (PCL). Recalled LHP Jaime Barria to Salt Lake (PCL). Released C Jose Briceo unconditionally. Reinstated UH Andrew Heaney from the 10-day IL.
LOS ANGELES ANGELS — Options RHP Eric Skoglund from Omaha. Signed OF Tyler Hill to a minor league contract.

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Los Angeles Angels — Options RHP Jaime Barria to Salt Lake (PCL). Released C Jose Briceo unconditionally. Reinstated UH Andrew Heaney from the 10-day IL.
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Pro soccer

MLS

Eastern Conference	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Philadelphia	12	9	3	39	41	29
New York	10	8	3	33	40	29
Atlanta	9	7	9	36	32	31
D.C. United	9	7	9	36	32	31
San Jose	10	9	3	33	36	47
Montreal	10	13	3	33	36	47
Portland	10	13	3	33	36	47
Orlando City	8	11	6	30	33	34
Chicago	7	10	9	30	37	37
Portland	10	13	3	33	36	47
Cincinnati	5	17	3	18	25	57

Western Conference

W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Los Angeles FC	11	7	6	39	38
Seattle	11	8	5	38	42
Minnesota	11	8	5	38	42
San Jose	12	10	3	33	46
LA Galaxy	12	10	1	37	30
Portland	10	9	6	36	36
FC Dallas	10	9	6	36	36
Portland	10	9	6	36	36
Houston	9	12	3	30	34
Sporting KC	7	10	7	28	47
Colorado	7	12	5	26	45
Vancouver	5	12	9	24	45

Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Saturday's games

New England 3, Seattle 3, tie
Cincinnati 2, Columbus 2, tie
Portland 3, Vancouver 1
FC Dallas 3, Minnesota United 3
Portland 3, Seattle 3, tie
FC Dallas 3, Montreal 2

Sunday's games

New York City 1, Toronto 1, tie
Houston at Philadelphia
Portland at D.C. United
New York at Los Angeles FC
Portland at Seattle
Sporting Kansas City at Orlando City
Colorado at Minnesota United
Portland at Seattle
FC Dallas at LA Galaxy
Portland at Seattle
Orlando City at Sporting Kansas City

Saturday

Revolution 3, Sounders 3

New England
First half—1, Seattle, Shipp, 4 (Morris).
2nd minute; 2nd New England, Mancienne, 1 (Gil). 27th minute; 3rd New England, Shipp, 4 (Morris).
35th minute; 4th Seattle, Shipp, 4 (Morris).
5th minute; 5th Seattle, Loderio, 5 (Morris).
66th; 6th New England, Gil, 5 (penalty kick).
79th.
6th New England, Matt Turner, 6 (penalty kick).
80th.
7th New England, Farrell, 46th; Mancienne, 54th. Seattle, Kee-Hee, 89th.

Salt Lake 2, Sporting KC 1

Real Salt Lake
1st half—1, Kansas City, Ryall, 1.
31st minute; 2nd Real Salt Lake, Baird, 38th.
2nd half—1, Real Salt Lake, Baird, 3 (Savarnio). 70th.
3rd Real Salt Lake, Nick Rimando, 46th; Portland, Kansas City, Tim Melia, Eric Dick.
Yellow Cards—Real Salt Lake, Besler, 29th; Beckerman, 45th; Baird, 76th; Herrera, 90th.
Kansas City, Gutierrez, 29th.
Fonatas, 45th; Hurtado, 90th.

Referee—Kansas City, Salloi, 84th.

Fr. 3, Impact 2

Montreal
1st half—1, Chicago, Molnar, 11 (Schweinsteiger). 8th minute; 2nd Chicago, Molnar, 11 (Schweinsteiger). 34th.
2nd half—1, Montreal, Sagna, 1 (Correia). 76th; Chicago, Schweinsteiger, 1 (Mihalovic). 88th.

Yellow Cards—Chicago, Schuster, 16th; Clement, 40th; Chicago, Kenneth Kronholm, 88th.
Yellow Cards—Chicago, Kronholm, 32nd; McCarthy, 74th. Montreal, Diallo, 67th.

Tennis

U.S. Open Series Cup

A.W.A. Open Series event
Saturday
At Toronto
Surface: Hard-Outdoor
Singles
Semifinals
Blanca Andreescu, def. Sofia Kenin, United States, 6-4, 7-6 (5).

Def. Marie Bouzkova, Czech Republic, 1-6, 6-3, 6-3.

Doubles

Semifinals
Barbora Krejickova and Katerina Siniakova (1), Czech Republic, def. Victoria Azarenka and Ash Barty (6), Australia, 3-6, 3-6, 10-8.

Anna-Lena Groenefeld, Germany, and Demi Schuurs (3), Netherlands, def. Gabriela Dabrowski, Canada, and Xu Yifan (2), China, 6-0, 6-3.

Rapids 2, Earthquakes 1

First half—1, Colorado, Acosta, 2 (Rubio). 45th minute.
Second half—2, San Jose, Oquendo, 1 (Hosner). 62nd; 3, Colorado, Rubio, 7 (Rosenberry). 73rd.
Yellow Cards—San Jose, Daniel Vega, Andrew Tarelli; Colorado, Clint Irwin, Andre Raws.
White Cards—Colorado, Rubio, 78th; price, 90th; San Jose, Judson, 55th; 77th.

Orlando City 1, Toronto FC 1

Orlando
1st half—1, Toronto, 1 (Michele).
2nd half—1, Orlando, Michele, 1 (Michele). 68th minute; 2, Toronto, Mullins, 1, 77th.
Goals—Orlando, Brian Rowe, Greg Raulis; Toronto, Quentin Westberg, Alex Bono.
Yellow Cards—Orlando, Sane, 82nd; Toronto, Delgado, 34th.
A—24,457.

FC Dallas 5, Minnesota 3

Minnesota
1st half—1, Minnesota, Finlay, 5 (bar).
11th minute; 2, Dallas, Hollingshead, 1 (Barrios). 28th; 3, Dallas, Hollingshead, 32nd; 4, Minnesota, Finlay, 6 (Martin).
Yellow Cards—Dallas, Cameron, 45th; Minnesota, Dotson, 3 (Martin).
2nd half—1, Dallas, Servania, 1 (Pomsky). 80th.
Goals—Minnesota, Vito Mannone, Bobby Shuttleworth; Dallas, Jesse Gonzalez, Yellow Cards—Dallas, Badji, 72nd; Cannon, 90th; Dallas, Ibarra, 47th; Red Cards—Minnesota, Tye, 90th.

FC Cincinnati 2, Crew 2

FC Cincinnati
1st half—1, FC Cincinnati, Matkocij, 3 (Ullrich). 16th minute; 2, FC Cincinnati, Ledesma, 4 (Lamach). 23rd; 3, Cincinnati, Zardes, 9 (penalty kick). 45th.
2nd half—1, Columbus, Santos, 8 (Cotton). 62nd.
Goals—FC Cincinnati, Przemyslaw Tyton, Columbus, Will Bruhn, Eric Roy, John Kempin.
Yellow Cards—FC Cincinnati, Van der Werf, 72nd; Cruz, 90th; Orlando, 90th; Columbus, Crogan, 18th; Santos, 68th.

Timbers 3, Whitecaps 1

Vancouver
1st half—1, Portland, Blanco, 4 (Valeri). 28th; 2nd Vancouver, 1, 38th.
2nd half—3, Portland, Lora, 1, 55th; 4, Portland, Ebobissi, 8 (Conech). 90th.
Goals—Vancouver, Maxime Grasse, Zac MacMath; Portland, Steve Clark, Riqui Puig.
Yellow Cards—Portland, Cascante, 45th; Lora, 60th; Vancouver, Godoy, 65th; Newkirk, 84th.
A—25,218.

NWSL

W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Chicago	9	5	2	29	19
Portland	8	6	2	30	15
Portland	7	6	3	27	20
Houston	6	7	4	22	17
Washington	6	6	3	21	15
Orlando	3	10	2	11	16
Seattle	3	10	2	11	16

Note: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Saturday's games

Chicago 1, Washington 0
Portland 1, Portland 0
Seattle 1, Washington 0
Portland 1, Portland 0
Reign FC at Utah

Wednesday's games

Sky Blue FC at Chicago

Auto racing

B&I Transport 170

At Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course

Brooklyn, Ohio
Lap length: 2.55 miles

Starting position in parentheses

1. (4) Austin Indig, Toyota, 75 laps.
2. (3) Christopher Bell, Toyota, 75.
3. (1) Kyle Busch, Toyota, 75.
4. (10) Trey Seidman, Chevrolet, 75.
5. (1) Ryan Sieg, Chevrolet, 75.
6. (18) Justin Allgaier, Chevrolet, 75.
7. (5) Chase Briscoe, Ford, 75.
8. (2) Cole Custer, Ford, 75.
9. (13) Justin Haley, Chevrolet, 75.
10. (20) Brandon Jones, Chevrolet, 75.
11. (11) Jeremy Clements, Chevrolet, 75.
12. (22) Will Rodgers, Chevrolet, 75.
13. (21) Michael Annett, Chevrolet, 75.
14. (10) Gray Gaulding, Chevrolet, 75.
15. (2) Jack Hawksworth, Toyota, 75.
16. (14) Ryan Sieg, Chevrolet, 75.
17. (20) Josh Billicki, Chevrolet, 75.
18. (10) Tommy Joe Martins, Toyota, 75.
19. (26) Ray Bell II, Chevrolet, 75.
20. (28) Garrett Smithley, Chevrolet, 75.
21. (22) Regan Smith, Chevrolet, 75.
22. (30) Justin Williams, Chevrolet, 75.
23. (37) Patrick Gallagher, Chevrolet, 75.

At Michigan International Speedway

Brooklyn, Ohio
Lap length: 2 miles

Starting position in parentheses
1. (4) Austin Indig, Toyota, 75 laps.
2. (3) Christopher Bell, Toyota, 75.
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9

COLLEGE FOOTBALL/GYMNASTICS

Ohio State defense seeks to buck slide

By MITCH STACY
Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The Ohio State defense seemed to hit rock bottom in a confounding loss to unranked Purdue in the eighth game last season.

But the weaknesses that led to the 49-20 blowout by the Boilermakers on Oct. 21 were on display most of the season, masked by a high-scoring Buckeyes offense.

Many players from that much-maligned 2018 Ohio State defense are back. But with a new head coach, defensive coordinator, scheme, position coaches and resolve, they're determined things will change.

"I'd say the attitude right now is redemption," cornerback Jeffrey Okudah said on the first day of practice last week.

The Purdue game was ugly for Ohio State. D.J. Knox ran for 128 yards and quarterback David Blough torched the No. 2 Buckeyes for 378 yards and three touchdowns.

The Buckeyes went on to win a Big Ten title, but the debacle at West Lafayette, Ind., kept them outside looking in for the College Football Playoff.

The Ohio State defense finished No. 9 statistically out of the 14 teams in the Big Ten. The unit surrendered more than 400 yards per game, settling in at 93rd in the nation in that category, 105th in passing defense and 76th against the run. Not up to standard at Ohio State, which has sent a dozen defensive players to the NFL in the last three seasons.

"We definitely don't dwell on last season," said defensive end Chase Young, who likely will be in an NFL training camp this time next year. "We had a coaching change, so we put last year



JAY LAPRETE/AP

Ohio State defensive end Chase Young, considered a solid NFL prospect, said the Buckeyes' defense is doing its best to put its lackluster 2018 performance in the rearview mirror.

in the past and we're just facing forward, and we're just trying to move the train."

New coach Ryan Day, who replaced the retiring Urban Meyer, fired Greg Schiano and brought in Greg Mattison as his defensive coordinator. A former NFL coordinator, Mattison lately was the defensive line coach at Michigan, which was among the nation's defensive leaders. Day also poached linebacker coach Al Washington from the rival Wolverines.

The biggest change is the installation of a hybrid linebacker-safety position known as the "bullet." Brendon White, a 6-foot-

2, 215-pound safety who was outstanding in the last five games of 2018, is a leading candidate for that spot.

The scheme will be simplified for linebackers, who struggled as a unit. They won't be expected to make as many reads, freeing them up to react and play faster.

The three starting linebackers return. Tuf Borland, who had battled an injury, is healthy and starts in the middle. He'll be flanked by Malik Harrison and Pete Werner. Harrison, a senior, played well down the stretch last season.

"They're a hungry group now,"

Day said. "They've read things. They're ready to go, and they're hungry, which is fun to be around. There are not a lot of smiles on our faces right now, which you like as a coach."

All the defensive players heard the criticism last year.

"I got a (Twitter message) one time that said I need to go back to high school and pick a different sport," laughed cornerback Damon Arnette. "I was like, damn!"

A fifth-year senior, Arnette has struggled at times on and off the field. He had considered trying to make a fresh start in the NFL

By the numbers

25.5

Points allowed per game last season by Ohio State, seventh-best out of the 14 teams in the Big Ten.

245.2

Average passing yards last season by the Buckeyes, 11th best in the Big Ten.

158.8

Average rushing yards allowed last season by the Buckeyes, sixth best in the Big Ten Conference.

SOURCE: Big Ten Conference

but was talked out of entering the draft. He'll be in the main cornerback rotation with Okudah and Shaun Wade.

"I think this year, hit the reset button for real," he said. "Especially with me, it's my last year so it's all or nothing. The question is, are we going to play up to what the talent level is and not let distractions come between (us and) what we know we can do on the field."

Mikulak takes 6th national gymnastics title

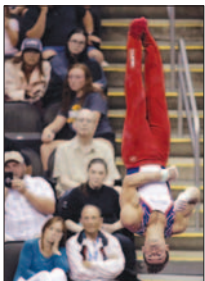
By WILL GRAVES
Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Samuel Mikulak doesn't show off the stash of medals he's earned from the U.S. men's gymnastics championships through the years. They sit in relatively anonymity in the basement of the place he shares with his girlfriend back in Colorado.

It's not that Mikulak doesn't appreciate what he's accomplished. It's just that two-time Olympian's standard is no longer measured by what he does on home soil.

So while Mikulak pumped his fists in joy after clinching his modern era-record sixth national title on Saturday night by toying runner-up Yul Moldauer by a staggering 5,550 points, Mikulak remains equal parts perfectionist and realist.

Yes, he's the most decorated American male gymnast of his generation. He's also aware that his generation might not be as deep as the ones that came before.



CHARLIE REEDER/AP

Sam Mikulak won his sixth overall title at the U.S. Gymnastics Championships.

"I guess it is just a weird place for the US right now," Mikulak said. "You could probably make the argument that maybe this is the easiest time period for USA

Gymnastics for a guy like me and so it doesn't quite hold as much to it right now."

After picking up his first individual world championship medal by grabbing bronze on high bar last October, the lack of any Olympic hardware is the lone hole left on his otherwise stuffed resume. And he knows it.

"I see the Russians and the Chinese and the Japanese and all the big skills they're throwing and I'm just trying to live up to those expectations," Mikulak said.

He remains adamant that, at 26, he believes his best years are ahead of him. It certainly looks like a possibility after he captured gold in high bar, parallel bars, pommel horse and floor exercise and completed 12 routines over the course of two days without a fall. His overall total of 174.150 also created the largest winning margin of his six national championships.

No wonder he's hinting at extending his career beyond Tokyo and hasn't ruled out competing into his 30s.

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SPORTS BRIEFS/MLB

Briefly

Gators dismiss troubled defensive back Huggins

Associated Press

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — Florida defensive back John Huggins has been dismissed from the football program.

A team spokesman declined to say what prompted the sophomore's dismissal. Huggins had missed all of preseason camp while dealing with what the Gators called a "family issue."

According to a police report released earlier this week, a 19-year-old University of Florida student accused Huggins of choking her during a tutoring session last October. Huggins was upset because the tutor took his phone in hopes of ensuring he would stay for the entire session, the report said.

The woman had previously been uncomfortable because Huggins pulled her hair in another session, the report said. She did not pursue a criminal case, and no charges were filed from the battery complaint.

Coach Dan Mullen said Tuesday that Huggins was punished; he missed five games following the alleged incident and is currently enrolled at the school. Mullen added that Huggins' most recent absence had nothing to do with the alleged incident in October.

Steelers wide receivers coach Drake dies at 62

PITTSBURGH — Pittsburgh Steelers wide receivers coach Darryl Drake has died. He was 62.

The team said Drake, who joined the coaching staff in 2018, died early Sunday morning.

"Darrryl had such an impact on the players he coached and everyone he worked with throughout his entire career," Steelers president Art Rooney II said. "He was a passionate coach and had a tremendous spirit toward life, his family, his faith and the game of football."

■ New NFL jets: Kicker Chandler Catanzaro has retired after a

shaky start to training camp.

The team announced Catanzaro's decision Sunday. The Jets also signed kicker Taylor Bertoletto to replace Catanzaro on the roster.

The 28-year-old Catanzaro signed with New York during the offseason for a second stint with the team. He struggled with consistency during camp, and then missed two extra points in the Jets' 31-22 preseason-opening loss to the Giants on Thursday. Catanzaro spent his first three NFL seasons with Arizona before joining New York in 2017. He played for Tampa Bay and Carolina last year.

Hill wins Trucks Series regular season finale

BROOKLYN, Mich. — Austin Hill hopes he's getting his groove back just in time to make a run at winning the NASCAR Truck Series championship.

"We wanted to put a good stamp on the end of the regular season, going into the playoffs," he said.

Hill held off Sheldon Creed to win at Michigan International Speedway on Saturday, earning his second victory of the year and his first since the season-opening race at Daytona.

The playoffs begin Thursday night at Bristol Motor Speedway with Brett Moffitt, Grant Enfinger, Stewart Friesen, Ross Chastain, Hill, Johnny Sauter, Tyler Ankrum and Matt Crafton.

"We're going to have a ton of confidence," Hill said.

In other auto racing news:

■ Austin Cindric raced to his second straight NASCAR Xfinity Series victory Saturday, holding off Christopher Bell at Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course.

The 20-year-old Cindric won for the first time in the series last week on the road course at Watkins Glen.

"To get my first two wins within a week is incredible," he said. "To win on a road course like this obviously gives you a lot of confidence."



JULIO CORTIZ/AP

The Houston Astros' Jose Altuve, left, celebrates with Robinson Chirinos after hitting a two-run home run off Orioles starting pitcher Aaron Brooks during the second inning of Saturday's game in Baltimore.

Power: O's starter Brooks allows 9 runs, 4 homers in just 3 innings

FROM BACK PAGE

bullpens in straightaway center. "It's really hard to explain what happened today," Altuve said. "A great game for us. A lot of good at-bats put together."

Yuli Gurriel tied a career-high with four hits for Houston.

Aaron Sanchez (5-14) made his second start for the Astros after being acquired from Toronto on July 31. He allowed one run and three hits with six strikeouts and three walks over five innings.

The Orioles are coming off a series where they tied an MLB record by allowing 16 home runs in three games against the Yankees. Baltimore did not allow multiple homers for the first time in 12 games in the opener against Houston.



Brooks

However, the Astros had a power surge the following night. The Astros took an early 3-0 lead off Orioles starter Aaron Brooks (2-6) on a two-run homer by Bergman followed by Alvarez's solo shot. It was the ninth time Houston has hit back-to-back home runs this season.

Houston pulled away with five runs in the second. Josh Reddick started the barrage with an RBI single followed by a two-run homer by Altuve. Bregman had an RBI double and scored on a balk by Brooks. Correa's solo shot in the third extended the lead to 9-1.

Brooks allowed a career-high

nine runs and four homers over just three innings.

"Just ran into a good offense, didn't execute pitches and had a few things not go my way," Brooks said.

Rio Ruiz managed his first career pinch-hit home run for the Orioles in the seventh. Baltimore outfielder Stevie Wilkerson made his fourth appearance, allowing three runs in 1 1/3 innings.

"By the third inning, probably I was planning how was I going to finish this game, and somehow we finished it," Orioles manager Brandon Hyde said.

More milestones: Alvarez has 51 RBIs through his first 45 career games, the most in major league history over that stretch, surpassing Ted Williams' record of 47 RBIs in his first 45 games in 1939.

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X
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MLB

Roundup

Trout hits 1st Fenway HR in rout of Red Sox

Associated Press

BOSTON — Mike Trout hit the first home run of his career at Fenway Park and the Los Angeles Angels snapped an eight-game losing streak with a 12-4 rout of the Boston Red Sox on Saturday.

Justin Upton added a three-run homer in the first inning.

With his 428-foot drive over the Green Monster in the sixth inning, Trout has now homered in every American League ballpark. He had played 21 games in Boston without connecting.

Trout was replaced in the seventh, having been hit in his shoulder by a pitcher earlier in the game.

The Angels added seven runs in a sloppy seventh inning by Boston in which it issued two walks, hit two batters and gave up four singles. The Red Sox also had an error and a passed ball.

Mets 4, Nationals 3: Luis Guillorme hit his first big league homer — a tying shot leading off the eighth — J.D. Davis added a go-ahead sacrifice fly and host New York beat Washington for its eighth straight victory.

The Mets have won 15 of 16 and are on their best roll since a 16-1 run in 1990. They pulled within a half-game of Washington for the first NL wild card.

Juan Soto put Washington ahead with his second home run of the game in the eighth inning, but Guillorme countered against Fernando Rodney with his homer in the bottom of the inning.

Giants 3, Phillies 1: Jeff Samardzija pitched eight innings of two-hit ball, Evan Longoria and Kevin Pillar homered, and host San Francisco beat Philadelphia.

Samardzija (9-9) gave up one run, struck out five and walked none. He retired 20 straight after giving up a solo homer to Corey Dickerson with two outs in the top of the first inning.

Blue Jays 5, Yankees 4: Vladimir Guerrero Jr. hit a go-ahead, two-run triple in the seventh inning and host Toronto dealt New York its second straight loss following a season-high nine game winning streak.



MICHAEL DWYER/AP

The Los Angeles Angels' Mike Trout follows through on a 428-foot, two-run home run during his team's 12-4 defeat of the Boston Red Sox. It was his first homer at Fenway Park.

Gary Sanchez returned from the injured list and hit a solo home run for the Yankees and Gio Urshela added a two-run drive.

The Blue Jays trailed 4-3 in the seventh when Bo Bichette drew a one-out walk, Cavan Biggio singled and Guerrero grounded the ball down the first base line and into foul territory. Right fielder Aaron Judge initially mishandled the ball against a side wall, and Guerrero slid in safely for the first of his career.

Royals 7, Tigers 0: Mike Montgomery struck out a career-high 12 in seven innings and Kansas City won at Detroit.

Jorge Soler homered and scored twice for the Royals, who had lost six of seven.

The Tigers were trying to win

three straight games for the first time since May 28-31, against the Orioles and Braves.

Montgomery (2-5) picked up his first win of the year as a starter, allowing four singles without walking a batter.

Marlins 7, Braves 6 (10): Martin Prado hit a sacrifice fly that scored Harold Ramirez in the bottom of the 10th inning as host Miami rallied past Atlanta.

Playing in front of a season-high home crowd of 29,720, the Marlins erased a 6-2 deficit by scoring four in the bottom of the ninth. Ramirez led off the 10th with a single off Atlanta reliever Sean Newcomb (5-2). Ramirez advanced two bases on an errant pickoff throw by Newcomb. Prado lifted a fly ball deep to left

field that scored Ramirez with the winning run.

Cardinals 3, Pirates 1: Adam Wainwright gave up a home run on the first pitch of the game and host St. Louis held on to beat Pittsburgh.

The contending Cardinals won their second in a row after ending a five-game losing streak.

Wainwright (8-8) allowed six hits, including the home run by Adam Frazier, and struck out eight in six innings. He improved to 6-2 this season at home.

Brewers 3, Rangers 2: Adrian Houser struck out a career-high 10 and rookie Keston Hiura hit his 14th home run as host Milwaukee beat Texas and extended its winning streak to five games.

Houser (5-5) limited the Rang-

ers to one run, a solo homer by Danny Santana in the sixth inning. He allowed three hits and a walk over six innings.

White Sox 3, Athletics 2: Reynaldo Lopez pitched shutout ball into the seventh inning, Eloy Jimenez homered on his bobbie-head night and host Chicago beat Tanner Roark and Oakland.

Lopez (7-9) allowed six hits, struck out three and walked three in his second straight win.

Dodgers 4, Diamondbacks 0: Kenta Maeda allowed three hits over seven innings, Max Muncy homered and host Los Angeles bounced back from an extra-inning loss with a win over Arizona.

Maeda (8-8) struck out six as he picked up his first victory since May 31. He also helped his cause at the plate with a pair of sacrifice bunts.

Padres 8, Rockies 5: Manuel Margot hit a go-ahead, two-run homer in the eighth inning and Hunter Renfroe had a homer among his three hits and scored four runs as host San Diego beat Colorado.

Will Myers added a pinch-hit homer in the eighth and rookie Fernando Tatis Jr. hit a triple to extend his hitting streak to a career-best 14 games for the Padres, who have won the first three games of this four-game series.

Twins 4, Indians 1: Max Kepler and Marwin Gonzalez homered, Jake Odorizzi earned his career-high 13th victory and host Minnesota broke a tie with Cleveland atop the AL Central while snapping a four-game losing streak.

The Indians had won the first two in the four-game series at Target Field, tying for the division lead after trailing by 11½ games in early June.

Rays 5, Mariners 4: Mike Zunino hit a three-run homer, Kevin Kiermaier and Avisail Garcia also went deep and Tampa Bay won at Seattle.

Tampa Bay starter Charlie Morton (12-4) gave up four runs on a season-high nine hits, and struck out 10 in six innings.

Emilio Pagan pitched a perfect ninth for his 11th save.



JOHN MINICHELLO/AP

Cincinnati Reds' Aristides Aquino celebrates the first of his three home runs Saturday in a 10-1 defeat of the Chicago Cubs.

Reds rookie Aquino racks up 3 homers

Associated Press

CINCINNATI — Rookie Aristides Aquino isn't keeping mementos from his prodigious power display, the one reminding everyone of another Reds outfielder who wore No. 44 and slashed homers with a whiplash swing.

After taking so long to get this far, the thrills are enough.

Aquino homered in his first three at-bats, tied a major league record for homers by a newcomer, and matched Eric Davis' rookie mark Saturday night during a 10-1 victory over the mesmerized Chicago Cubs, who have watched him wallow everything thrown his way.

"Is it him or is it Eric Davis?" Cubs manager Joe Maddon said. "I don't know. Same number. He used to do that kind of stuff. Give him credit. He didn't

miss anything. He hasn't missed anything this series."

The 25-year-old outfielder got his chance when fan favorite Yasiel Puig was traded to the Indians on July 31. He's become an overnight sensation in Cincinnati.

Aquino connected in the second and third innings off Kyle Hendricks (8-9) and again in the fourth off Dillon Maples, becoming the first major league rookie to homer in three consecutive innings in one game. His seven homers in his first major league 10 games ties Trevor Story's record with the Rockies in 2016.

He joined Davis — the Reds' center fielder on their 1990 World Series title team — as the only Cincinnati rookies to homer in four straight games. Davis did it in 1984.

"I'm enjoying the moment," Aquino said.

NFL

Preseason roundup

Chiefs' Mahomes sharp vs. Bengals

Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Patrick Mahomes picked up where he left off from his record-breaking debut as a starter, marching the Kansas City Chiefs downfield for a first-quarter touchdown in what became a 38-17 preseason victory over the Cincinnati Bengals on Saturday night.

Mahomes did a bit of everything on the only series by the Chiefs' first-team offense, going 4-for-4 for 66 yards while adding a 10-yard scramble and inducing an offside penalty.

Andy Dalton was nearly as sharp for Cincinnati, going 7-for-9 for 80 yards while leading his team on a 14-play, 75-yard touchdown march to open the game. Dalton did it without the services of injured wide receiver A.J. Green or his top two running backs, Joe Mixon and Giovani Bernard.

The most interesting thing to happen in the game came late in the first half, when Kyle Shurmur was marching the Chiefs downfield. His throw to Byron Pringle down the sideline was picked by safety Brandon Wilson, scuttling the drive and giving Cincinnati a chance with the ball.

But under a rule change approved by NFL owners in March, pass interference calls can be reviewed — a response to the controversial non-call in the NFC title game last season. And when officials reviewed the play Saturday night, they decided that cornerback Tony Lippett had caused interference. The penalty gave the Chiefs the ball back and they wound up kicking a field goal.

In an odd coincidence, the provision passed by a 31-1 vote of owners at the league's annual meeting in Phoenix. The only team that voted against the rule was Cincinnati.

ers 17, Cowboys 9: At Santa Clara, Calif., Dak Prescott completed all four of his pass attempts, caught one and led Dallas to a field goal in a brief cameo in the preseason opener as the Cowboys went on to lose to San Francisco.

Prescott and the bulk of the Dallas offensive starters played one series, moving the ball 65 yards in nine plays. The drive stalled when his third-down pass in the red zone was batted at the line by Sheldon Day right back to Prescott, who lost a yard on the play before Brett Mahler



COLIN E. BRALEY/AP

Chiefs wide receiver Byron Pringle, center, tries to hold onto the ball against the defense of Bengals defensive back Tony Lippett. Brandon Wilson, right, intercepted the ball, but the play was overturned under the new rule that allows interference calls to be reviewed.

kicked the first of his three field goals.

Dallas didn't have its entire first-team offense on the field as star running back Ezekiel Elliott remains a contract holdout in search of a new contract. Rookie Tony Pollard got the nod and ran four times for 16 yards on his only drive of the game.

Nick Mullens got the starting nod at quarterback for the 49ers and threw for 105 yards, one touchdown and one interception in the first half in his attempt to win the backup job. C.J. Beathard threw for 141 yards, one TD and one interception in the second half before leaving with what appeared to be an injured hand.

Raiders 14, Rams 13: At Oakland, Calif.,

Nathan Peterman scrambled 50 yards to set up his only touchdown throw and Oakland beat Los Angeles in the preseason opener for both teams.

Peterman entered in the third quarter and completed nine of 12 passes for 66 yards. He also led both teams with 56 yards rushing.

A starter for Buffalo in Week 1 a year ago, Peterman is competing with Mike Glennon for the backup job to Derek Carr. Glennon, attempting to latch on with his fourth team in four years, started and went 17-for-25 for 200 yards, but threw two interceptions.

Both teams held out of a majority of their starters after holding two joint practices at the Raiders' training camp facilities in Napa.

Scoreboard

Preseason glance						
AMERICAN CONFERENCE						
East						
W	L	Pct	PF	PA		
Buffalo	1	0	0	1,000	24	16
New England	1	0	0	1,000	31	3
Miami	1	0	0	1,000	34	27
N.Y. Jets	0	0	0	0	22	31
South						
Tennessee	1	0	0	1,000	27	10
Houston	1	0	0	1,000	30	10
Indianapolis	0	1	0	0	00	29
Jacksonville	0	1	0	0	00	29
North						
Baltimore	1	0	0	1,000	29	0
Cleveland	1	0	0	1,000	14	3
Pittsburgh	1	0	0	1,000	30	28
Cincinnati	0	1	0	0	00	17
West						
Kansas City	1	0	0	1,000	38	17
Oakland	1	0	0	1,000	14	3
Denver	1	1	0	500	28	32
L.A. Chargers	0	1	0	0	00	13
NATIONAL CONFERENCE						
East						
N.Y. Giants	1	0	0	1,000	31	22
Dallas	0	1	0	0	00	9
Philadelphia	0	1	0	0	00	17
Washington	0	1	0	0	00	10
South						
Carolina	1	0	0	1,000	23	13
Tampa Bay	0	1	0	0	00	28
Atlanta	0	2	0	0	00	37
New Orleans	0	1	0	0	00	25
North						
Minnesota	1	0	0	1,000	34	25
Green Bay	1	0	0	1,000	28	26
Chicago	0	1	0	0	00	13
Detroit	0	1	0	0	00	31
West						
San Francisco	1	0	0	1,000	17	9
Seattle	1	0	0	1,000	22	14
Arizona	0	1	0	0	00	17
L.A. Rams	0	1	0	0	00	34

Thursday's games	
Buffalo 24, Indianapolis 16	
Baltimore 29, Jacksonville 9	
New England 31, Detroit 3	
Cleveland 30, Washington 10	
Tennessee 27, Philadelphia 10	
Miami 34, Atlanta 27	
N.Y. Giants 31, N.Y. Jets 22	
Carolina 23, Chicago 13	
Green Bay 28, Houston 26	
Arizona 17, L.A. Chargers 13	
Seattle 22, Denver 14	
Friday's games	
Oakland 14, L.A. Rams 3	
Kansas City 38, Cincinnati 17	
San Francisco 17, Dallas 9	
Philadelphia at Jacksonville	
Green Bay at Baltimore	
N.Y. Jets at Atlanta	
Minnesota at Washington	
Oakland at Arizona	
Saturday, Aug. 16	
Buffalo at Carolina	
Chicago at N.Y. Giants	
Nashville at Tampa Bay	
Sunday, Aug. 17	
Cleveland at Indianapolis	
New England at Tennessee	
Kansas City at Pittsburgh	
Detroit at Houston	
Dallas vs L.A. Rams at Honolulu, Hawaii	
Monday, Aug. 19	
New Orleans at L.A. Chargers	
Seattle at Minnesota	
San Francisco at Denver	

Lions put vet Kearse on IR after gruesome injury

By MATT SCHOCH

Associated Press

ALLEN PARK, Mich. — Jermaine Kearse checked several boxes for the Detroit Lions when they brought in the wide receiver as a free agent during mini-camp in June.

Kearse was familiar with new offensive coordinator Darrell Bevell's scheme, had the flexibility to play outside or in the slot, and added a veteran presence to a locker room that formerly had strong wide receiver leadership from Golden Tate. Kearse's former teammate in Seattle.

Now that Kearse is out indefinitely after suffering a gruesome injury on Thursday during the first possession of the preseason opener, the Lions must look elsewhere to fill those roles.

Defensive end Keion Tate and defensive tackle Darius Kilgo were placed on injured reserve Saturday, and coach Matt Patricia con-

firmed quarterback Tom Savage is in the concussion protocol after hitting his head on the turf on a sack during New England's 31-3 thumping of Detroit.

The Lions reacted by signing quarterback Josh Johnson and running back Justin Stockton.

Detroit did receive some good injury news as defensive end Trey Flowers, who signed a five-year deal for \$90 million in the offseason, was activated from the physically unable to perform list.

Kearse was blocking on a running play by Ty Johnson when a New England player landed on him from behind. It was the fifth play from scrimmage during the game, which starting receivers Marvin Jones Jr., Kenny Golladay and Danny Amendola sat out.

While the stretcher was called and an air cast was placed on Kearse's left leg, Patricia's own injury prevented him from being out there.

Patricia was immobile on the

sideline because of an offseason lower-leg surgery, perched high on a platform near midfield, back several feet from the sideline.

"I felt very stuck from my point where I couldn't get out there and couldn't get out and see him," Patricia said Saturday. "That was really kind of tough from that standpoint. Unbelievable guy. We've been talking non-stop and obviously a big part of what we've been doing so far."

Kearse's injury creates an opportunity for receivers down the depth chart, such as Chris Lacy and Tom Kennedy, who caught touchdown passes late at practice Saturday in full squad work.

Undrafted rookie Jonathan Duhart of Old Dominion also caught passes on consecutive plays, including a toe-tapper near the sideline, firing up his offensive teammates.

"Jermaine is a vet in this league, just a great guy," Duhart said. "He came in and helped me out a lot



DUANE BURLESON/AP

Lions wide receiver Jermaine Kearse is examined during the preseason game on Thursday in Detroit.

personally, a guy I always looked up to. It's always tough to see him go down, but at the end of the day, as a receiving corps we have to step up and fill in for him."

Duhart played on the outside and in the slot in college, plus spe-

cial teams early in his career. "One of the things that we're always preaching, no matter what the position, is versatility," Patricia said. "The more versatility that you have, the more value you can add to the team."

NFL

Browns' rookie LB Wilson making plays

By BRIAN DULIK
Associated Press

BEREA, Ohio — Rookie linebacker Mack Wilson is trending in a positive direction at Browns training camp and on social media.

The fifth-round pick from Alabama was the only NFL player with two interceptions in the opening week of the preseason — returning one for a touchdown — and is building a reputation as a ballhawk with four picks over the first 12 camp practices.

Wilson doesn't have the star power of teammates Baker Mayfield, Odell Beckham Jr. or Jarvis Landry, but is making a surprising impact for the No. 155 overall selection in the draft.

"Look at Big Al, he struggled early in camp, but just kept working and kept his head down, and he continues to get better," Cleveland coach Freddie Kitchens said Saturday after practice. "Having problems right away is not something you want to go through, but if you come through the other side, you're a better player than you were before."

Kitchens has a natural affinity for Wilson, giving him a nickname that refers to their bond as Crimson Tide alumni. Browns fans have taken to him, as well, because of his expressions of love toward Cleveland on Twitter and Instagram.

The 6-foot-1, 233-pounder proclaimed himself "the best pick in the draft" after falling to the fifth. He played like it Thursday in the Browns' 30-10 win over Washington, then left FirstEnergy Stadium wearing the jersey of Cavaliers guard Collin Sexton.

Wilson returned a short pass by Dwayne Haskins 40 yards for a pick-six in the second quarter and snared a downfield throw by Josh Woodrum in the fourth, just as he had predicted to roommate Sione Takitaki the night before.

"I was like, 'Taki, I'm going



RON SCHWANE/AP

Cleveland Browns linebacker Mack Wilson, left, runs past Washington Redskins quarterback Dwayne Haskins as Wilson returns an interception for a touchdown in the Browns' 30-10 preseason win.

to catch two interceptions. I'm going to crib one and I might just catch one," Wilson said. "It's crazy. It's unbelievable. I can't really put it into words. I'm just thankful for having these guys as teammates and helping me get interceptions."

Third-round pick Takitaki, who is playing alongside Wilson on the second-team defense, confirmed the story. Kitchens indicated that both linebackers are likely to take reps with the ones later in camp.

"Mack is a confident kid and sometimes I'm like, 'Yeah, we'll see,' but I think I'm going to start believing him now," Takitaki

said, laughing. "He told me the same thing before warmups, that he was going to get two. After the second one, I was like, 'Dang, you made it happen.'"

Wilson credits playing quarterback, running back and wide receiver at Montgomery (Alabama) Carver High for giving him a "nose for the ball," but admits "it's hard to explain why. It's just something I have, I guess."

"I had a good game, but there's always room for improvement," he continued. "My mindset is to continue to keep that chip on my shoulder until we win a Super Bowl."

There is so much room for improvement with him, but he's going to be a No. 1 receiver one day."

Williams had 14 touchdown catches as a senior last year at Colorado State and was touted by at least one draft prognosticator as a potential first-round pick. But because of his 2017 arrest on misdemeanor charges stemming from a domestic dispute, his invitation to the NFL Combine was pulled.

He then went undrafted, and signed as a free agent with Miami. Under first-year coach Brian Flores, the Dolphins have shown a willingness to give players with off-the-field issues another chance.

"People forget these guys are just kids," Flores said Saturday. "I remember being a 21-, 22-, 23-year-old, and I didn't make the best decisions. We've got to teach these young people. That's our job as coaches and educators and leaders. We're doing that Preston and all our rookies and young players, and even our vets as well."

'Mack is a confident kid and sometimes I'm like, 'Yeah, we'll see,' but I think I'm going to start believing him now. He told me the same thing before warmups, that he was going to get two. After the second one, I was like, 'Dang, you made it happen.'

Sione Takitaki

On fellow Browns rookie linebacker Mack Wilson

play, but I want to see him coming back from those bad plays.

"He has to show he can win his one-on-one battles. Then, maybe, he gets that right to spend some time with the first group."

Notes: RB Kareem Hunt took part in team drills for the first time. The former Chiefs standout was on the non-football injury list with a strained groin until Aug. 3 and is suspended for the first eight games of the season as a result of a domestic violence incident. ... WR Antonio Callaway (ankle), CB T.J. Carrie (hamstring) and TE Seth DeValve (concussion) did not practice. Callaway was hit with a four-game NFL suspension one day earlier after failing a substance abuse test. ... Incumbent K Greg Joseph, who missed an extra point against the Redskins, went 5-for-5 during a field goal drill. K Austin Seibert, a fifth-round pick from Oklahoma, failed from 47 yards and was 4 of 5.

WR Antonio Callaway (ankle), CB T.J. Carrie (hamstring) and TE Seth DeValve (concussion) did not practice. Callaway was hit with a four-game NFL suspension one day earlier after failing a substance abuse test. ... Incumbent K Greg Joseph, who missed an extra point against the Redskins, went 5-for-5 during a field goal drill. K Austin Seibert, a fifth-round pick from Oklahoma, failed from 47 yards and was 4 of 5.

"Just because Mack makes two splash plays, you didn't see the busted assignments," Kitchens said. "He has busted assignments out here on the practice field. Not to take anything away from his

Undrafted rookie Williams has been Dolphins' big catch

By STEVEN WINE
Associated Press

MIAMI — The Miami Dolphins posted a tweet Saturday of a new, nearly life-size photo covering an elevator door at the stadium. It showed rookie Preston Williams making an acrobatic catch in the team's first exhibition game.

"That's so awesome!" Williams tweeted in response.

The Dolphins agree.

Their undrafted rookie was the game's biggest star Thursday, with four receptions for 97 yards, including a diving catch for 16, a leaping grab over a defender for 27, and a one-hander for 36.

The breakout performance wasn't exactly a surprise because Williams has been Miami's most impressive rookie in training camp.

"That guy can be special," said teammate Xavien Howard, a Pro Bowl cornerback. "He's just a rookie.



BRYAN ANDERSON/AP

Miami Dolphins wide receiver Preston Williams makes a diving catch in front of Atlanta Falcons cornerback Eliot West-Wilson. Williams, an undrafted player from Colorado State, had four catches for 97 yards in his team's 34-27 preseason win on Thursday.

SPORTS



Trending upwards
Browns rookie LB Wilson
making plays » **NFL, Page 31**

MLB

Display of power

Astros blast Orioles in
highest-scoring game
in franchise history

The Houston Astros' Alex Bregman runs the bases after hitting a two-run home run off Orioles starting pitcher Aaron Brooks during the first inning of Saturday's game in Baltimore.

JULIO CORTIZ/AP

By **TODD KARPOVICH**
Associated Press

H BALTIMORE ouston manager A. J. Hinch was simply awestruck by his team's extraordinary display of power.

The Astros aren't showing any type of weakness heading into the final stretch of the season.

Rookie Yordan Alvarez hit three of Houston's six homers and drove in a career-high seven runs to help the Astros to the highest scoring game in franchise history with a 23-2 rout of the Baltimore Orioles on Saturday night.

"It was obviously a pretty explosive night from the beginning," Hinch said. "From top to bottom just incredible at-bats, productive at-bats, explosive at-bats and ultimately a comfortable win."

The victory was the eighth straight for the Astros, who became the latest team to feast on the reeling Orioles. Baltimore has allowed a major league-leading 240 homers and lost five straight.

It was the second 20-run game in Astros history. Houston also beat the Arizona Diamondbacks 21-5 on Oct. 2, 2015. The 13 extra-base hits set a franchise record.

Alex Bregman, who went 3-for-3, and Alvarez set the tone with back-to-back homers in the first inning. Alvarez added the grand slam in the seventh and a two-run shot in the ninth.

Jose Altuve hit his fourth home run in his last seven games in the second. Carlos Correa hit another home run an inning later with a 474-foot shot that cleared the

SEE POWER ON PAGE 27

Baltimore's race to the bottom

62

Times the Orioles have allowed multiple HRs this year, an MLB record for a team's first 116 games.

474

Distance, in feet, of Astros SS Carlos Correa's third-inning HR Saturday, longest ever at Camden Yards.

18

The O's are 18 HRs shy of the 2016 Cincinnati Reds' record for most home runs allowed in a season.

7

Times this season an O's pitcher has given up at least four HRs in one outing, another MLB record.

30-3

Score by which the O's lost to the Texas Rangers in 2007, the most lopsided loss in franchise history.

SOURCE: Nathan Ruiz/The Baltimore Sun

Buckeyes 'D' looking for redemption » College football, Page 26

